

# POTUS Bingo

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## **About this activity**

President of the United States (POTUS) Bingo is a tool designed to engage students in presidential addresses. The activity begins during the class prior to the address with the teacher providing background information about the topic of the speech and students filling out their Bingo cards. Then, as a homework or in-class assignment, students are each given a POTUS Bingo card to use while watching the speech. In the next class session, the cards are used as a discussion starter as well as a tool to analyze the president's statements.

## Before the address

Have students review and discuss current events. Instruct students to work as a group or individually to list the 24 phrases they think the president will mention in his speech. Students should use this list to populate their Bingo cards.

## During the address

Have students watch the address or have students read excerpts aloud, playing Bingo according to the standard rules.

## After the address

Have students share the results of their Bingo cards. Encourage students to compare terms they have checked off. Refer back to the printed transcript to clarify disagreements.

- Students can write a newspaper article covering the address. Encourage analysis of the effectiveness of the president in his ability to deliver his message.
- Give each student a copy of the transcript of the address and, in groups, have students re-write the speech so that it lasts no more than five minutes.
- Students can spend 5 minutes completing a quick-write about their thoughts on the address.

## Alternative Procedures

*If the students are unable to watch the speech in class, they will be able to access it online on such sites as youtube.com, cnn.com, or other similar websites. You may also complete the activity by having students read a transcript of the address after it has aired.*

# POTUS Bingo

**Directions:**

1. Work in groups or individually to fill in the boxes with phrases you think the president will use in his address.
2. Watch the speech given by the president and listen carefully.
3. When the president says one of the key words you and your group have placed on your card, mark it.
4. When you have marked off all of the words in a straight line horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, declare Bingo! The Free Space counts as a marked off square in your line. Continue playing until the end of the speech to get as many Bingos as possible.

		<b><i>FREE SPACE</i></b>		