



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# JAM Speeches

*An extension of "Hillary Clinton may soon win the world's most powerful job"*

## INTRODUCTION

Before people vote for their leaders, politicians give many speeches. They try to convince people to vote for them. What if you were interested in being a country's leader? What would you say in your campaign speeches?

Some people give very long speeches. But, when they appear on television, for instance, only short slices of their speeches are given. In which case, sometimes, it makes sense to keep speeches brief – even as short as just a minute. In fact, just-a-minute (JAM) speeches can be very effective if you prepare them well.

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. **FORM** six teams by dividing up your class into fairly equal numbers. Each team pretends to be a political party with candidates running to be elected as the prime minister (PM) of a make-believe country. Give your country a made-up name.
2. **PREPARE** your JAM speeches individually. That is, every student should write a one-minute speech, aiming for the position of PM. The JAM speech should include (a) your concerns about the country (b) how you will fix them (c) why you would be a better PM than anyone else in your class.
4. **DELIVER** your speech within your team. Every team then selects three candidates to compete with the rest of the class. The rest of the team should help their three candidates by making banners and creating chants to use before and after their candidates' speeches. Have fun!
5. **CONDUCT** the campaign as a whole class. Each team fields its three candidates. Every candidate speaks for only one minute. Teams support their candidates with their cheers and chants (but all remain silent while a candidate is speaking).
6. **VOTE**, as a whole class, for the prime minister of your fictitious country.
7. **REFLECT** on how a JAM speech is different from longer speeches. What are its pros and cons? Share your observations with other readers by emailing a note to [letters@whatsup.sg](mailto:letters@whatsup.sg).