

Task: Watch the clip of President Obama's speech in 2004 and read the information on this link. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/znn2xyc>

- 1) Read the transcript of the end of Barack Obama's speech below. Highlight examples of the key features, listed below: A FOREST.
- 2) Copy your 3 favourite examples of the key features in the chart. If the feature is not in the speech, you do not have to include it but if you look carefully- they're almost all there!

The key features of a powerful speech

The acronym **A FOREST** is one easy way to remember some of the key features of a powerful speech. It stands for:

- A** - alliteration
- F** - facts
- O** - opinion
- R** - rhetorical questions (questions without an answer)
- E** - emotive language (words which describe or inspire feelings)
- S** – statistics (key amounts, measurements or figures)
- T** - triples (repeating your point three times, but in different ways)



Alliteration	Facts	Opinions	Rhetorical questions	Emotive language	Statistics	Triplets

This election had many firsts and many stories that will be told for generations. But one that's on my mind tonight is about a woman who cast her ballot in Atlanta. She's a lot like the millions of others who stood in line to make their voice heard in this election, except for one thing: Ann Nixon Cooper is 106 years old.

She was born just a generation past slavery; a time when there were no cars on the road or planes in the sky; when someone like her couldn't vote for two reasons — because she was a woman and because of the color of her skin.

And tonight, I think about all that she's seen throughout her century in America — the heartache and the hope; the struggle and the progress; the times we were told that we can't and the people who pressed on with that American creed: Yes, we can.

At a time when women's voices were silenced and their hopes dismissed, she lived to see them stand up and speak out and reach for the ballot. Yes, we can.

When there was despair in the Dust Bowl and depression across the land, she saw a nation conquer fear itself with a New Deal, new jobs and a new sense of common purpose. Yes, we can.

When the bombs fell on our harbor and tyranny threatened the world, she was there to witness a generation rise to greatness and a democracy was saved. Yes, we can.

She was there for the buses in Montgomery, the hoses in Birmingham, a bridge in Selma and a preacher from Atlanta who told a people that "We Shall Overcome." Yes, we can.

A man touched down on the moon, a wall came down in Berlin, a world was connected by our own science and imagination. And this year, in this election, she touched her finger to a screen and cast her vote, because after 106 years in America, through the best of times and the darkest of hours, she knows how America can change. Yes, we can.

America, we have come so far. We have seen so much. But there is so much more to do. So tonight, let us ask ourselves: If our children should live to see the next century; if my daughters should be so lucky to live as long as Ann Nixon Cooper, what change will they see? What progress will we have made?

This is our chance to answer that call. This is our moment. This is our time — to put our people back to work and open doors of opportunity for our kids; to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace; to reclaim the American Dream and reaffirm that fundamental truth that out of many, we are one; that while we breathe, we hope, and where we are met with cynicism, and doubt, and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people: Yes, we can.

Thank you, God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.