**Lesson 1-2: Planning your speech**

You are a lawyer representing one of the Sioux tribes. Your job is to record a 1-5 minute speech that aims to persuade a court that your tribe deserves **compensation** for the way that they have been treated by the white settlers in the past. Compensation is when you are given money to say sorry for something.

Your speech should be formal, use persuasive languages and should explain your case clearly.

**Structure**

Your speech should be split into two main sections:

**1. Why your tribe needs compensation today** – i.e. what problems does your community have that compensation could help them deal with.

You need to use the *‘We are still here’* video we watched in class to get the research for this (think about what has happened to their language, culture, beliefs – how could the money be used to save these? They also mention social problems and poverty – you could talk about this too)

**2. Why these problems are the fault of the white settlers** – this will convince the court that the government should pay the compensation as it was their fault historically.

Pick 2-4 main reasons to explain and support your argument from the following list:

*Dodge City and the buffalo, the boarding schools, being forced on to reservations, the ‘Indian Wars’ (Custer and the following invasion), the mass movement of miners & farmers onto native American land, the railways, impact of diseases spread by white settlers, any other that you can think of.*

By ‘explain’, I mean looking for details of what happened in each area, any facts (e.g. numbers of buffalo killed etc) and how it adds to your argument that it was the fault of the white settlers.

**3. The best speeches will have a summary at the end** that goes over the key points of why your tribe needs compensation and why the government (who represent the white settlers) should be the ones to pay it.

**Before you record your speech:**

**1. Research each area you have chosen to explain** – you should use the textbook at the back of the room – the last few chapters gives lots of information on what the white settlers did to the native Americans after Custer that will help you.

**You could also use internet searches, but only do this (if you have time) after you have used the textbook**.

**2. Plan your speech –** if you are confident, prompt cards are best. If you are less confident write the whole thing out – however, try not to read off a script when you actually record yourself.