

Writing Your 4-H Modeling Commentary Walla Walla County 4-H Program

The 4-H Fashion Revue commentary presents the 4-H member and his or her project to the audience. The commentary should introduce the 4-H member, describe special garment features for the audience to notice, and highlight additional information about the 4-H'er and the project.

A commentary's introduction lets the 4-H'er know when to come on stage and the conclusion gives the 4-H'er the signal to leave the stage.

A commentary should be interesting to the audience. It should tell details that the audience might miss. Stating the obvious bores the listener.

4-H commentaries should be based on the member's age and the complexity of the garment. Walla Walla County 4-H Fashion Revue commentaries should be limited to 125 words. This gives the model approximately 60 seconds on stage to make two or three turns and then exit.

A commentary:

Introduces the model by name.

- Tells what is being modeled (the skirt may be the item sewn, while the blouse is a purchased accessory)
- Tells where or how the outfit will be worn or why it was made.
- Gives fabric facts, such as type, fiber content, or color.
- Describes fashion details of the outfit (necklines, bodice, sleeves, or special notions). The pattern envelope can give you ideas.
- Includes what the 4-H'er has learned in making the garment, techniques used, challenges, or triumphs.
- Briefly tells about the 4-H member – grade, school, 4-H club, hobbies or sports.

Example of a Modeling Commentary

Kaitlyn King's lightweight rayon dress is just right for dress-up days at school and other special occasions. Kaitlyn chose this forest green fabric because she wants to wear the dress year round. Notice the lace-tucked edges on the bodice. One of Kaitlyn's first learning experiences from this project was matching fabric, lace, and thread. She said it was difficult. The time she spent looking for just the right colors and textures sure paid off! Kaitlyn is a member of the Fabulous 4-H'ers Club and plays softball and is in the school choir. You can also see her at the Fair showing her dog, Lucky. Great job, Kaitlyn!

See WSU publication EM4224E, Writing 4-H Fashion Revue Commentary for more information.