**Example Narrative Speech Outline**

**MESSAGE:** [Sometimes your friends aren’t experts]

**AUDIENCE:** VT Students

**PURPOSE:** To inform

**Introduction [Write out everything in this section]**

1. **Attention-Getter:** When the weather turns cold, my friends and I, along with millions of Americans, head to the ski slopes to enjoy thrills in the snow.
2. **Motivation/Relevance:** Everyone wants to believe that our friends are always looking out for us, and on my first ski trip, I was no different
3. **Thesis:** Little did I know that trip would end in many bruises for me and a very embarrassing trip down the mountain

***Transition:*** *Now, I did not come from a long line of skiers--in fact, this trip was my first attempt at skiing.*

**Body**

1. **Rising Action** [How does your story start?]
   1. Freshman year
      1. Friends suggest ski trip
      2. Apprehensive at first
   2. I had never been before
      1. Didn’t know how; lessons expensive
      2. Friend offers to teach me

***Transition:*** *With my problems seemingly solved, we suited up, bypassed the lessons for first-timers and rode the lift to the top of the mountain.*

1. **Climax** [What is the turning point of your story?]
   1. In position, ready to learn
      1. “Just ski”
      2. Friend leaves
   2. Complete panic
      1. Other friend taught “pizza” technique
      2. Made it down bunny slope

***Transition:*** *Now, for those of you who may be thinking, “That doesn’t sound like a good idea.” You would be right.*

1. **Falling action** [How does the story resolve?]
   1. In over my head
      1. Slid down mountain
      2. Mountain rescue stopped by
   2. Embarrassed, annoyed
      1. Spent rest of night at lodge
      2. Got home sore, exhausted

***Transition:*** *Was this incident enough to end my friendship? No, but I did learn an important lesson.*

**Conclusion**

1. **Restate thesis:** Despite what your friends might say, they don’t know everything.
2. **Memorable thought:** The next time you try something new, don’t end up like me. Keep your vacation fun and your friendships strong. Take the ski lessons.