

Yrd. Doç. Dr. Z. Cihan TAYŞİ



Outline

- Before you start
- Structure
- Visual Aids
- More on Before you start



Before You Start

- Who are your audience and what do they know?
- What equipment will you have?
 - Powerpoint, Overhead projector, flip chart ...
- Where is the talk?
- How many people?
- How long do you have ?
 - Conferences usually give you 15 minutes to talk, and 5 minutes for questions



Before You Start

Dress smartly

Don't let your appearance distract from what you are saying

Smile

- Don't hunch up and shuffle your feet. Have an upright posture. Try to appear confident and enthusiastic
- Say hello and smile when you greet the audience
- Speak clearly
 - firmly and confidently as this makes you sound in control. **Don't speak too quickly**: you are likely to speed up and raise the pitch of your voice when nervous.
 - Give the audience time to absorb each point. Don't talk in a monotone the whole time.
 - Lift your head up and address your words to someone near the back of audience. If you think people at the back can't hear, ask them



Before You Start

- Stand to one side of the projector/flip chart, so the audience can see the material
- Face and speak to your audience, not the screen.
 - Inexperienced PowerPoint presenters have their backs to the audience most of the time!
- Don't use too many slides
- Don't try to write too much
 - Use note form and bullets rather than full sentences.
 - It is very hard for a member of the audience to read slides and listen simultaneously



Introduction

- Welcome the audience.
- Say what your presentation will be about
 - the aims and objectives.
 - Rationale and justification for study
- The introduction should catch the attention.
 - Perhaps a provocative statement or a humorous anecdote:
 - "Genetically-modified crops could save millions of people from starvation"



Sidetrack: A word about patents

If you describe your 'invention' to the public <u>before you have registered the</u>
<u>patent</u>, it is considered public information, and therefore <u>will not be patented!</u>



Materials and Methods

- Show that your methods are supported by the literature and scientific principles
- Logical, step-by-step process for carrying out the experiment and collecting data
- Explain why you chose your experimental design and statistical analyses
- Don't try to say pack too much content in or you will talk non- stop trying to get all your content and the audience will switch off with information overload long before the end.
- Use graphics or anecdotes to add variety

Results and Discussion

- Briefly summarize your main points.
- Relate results to objectives
- Limit the number of data points and present them clearly
- Discuss points relating to
 - other research
 - practical or
 - scientific applications



Conclusions

- Reiterate the main points you want the audience to remember
- Show a list of conclusions and relate them back to your objectives
- Answer any questions.
- Thank the audience for listening. Look at the audience again, smile and slow down.
- The end should be on a strong or positive note not tailing away to "..well that's all I've got to say so thank you very much for listening ladies and gentlemen".



Visual Aids

- Professional
- Easy to read
- Not distracting
 - resist the temptation to include excessive moving images/noises etc

PLASMA the fourth state of

matter

- As a gas gets increasingly hot, the bonds holding the gas molecule together eventually break
- The resulting substance contains charged particles ions and electrons – but is overall neutral.
- · This is a **PLASMA**.
- Because the particles are Charged they respond to electric fields; because they are Charged and

Moving they respond to magnetic fields

- $\bullet F = ma = q (E + v \times B)$
- It is in a plasma that fusion occurs heat up deuterium/tritium gas sufficiently that the deuterons & tritons are moving so fast that they overcome their electrical repulsion.



Visual Aids

Plasma: the fourth state of matter

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- . This is a plasma.
- Because the particles are charged, they respond to electric fields;
 because they are charged and moving they respond to magnetic fields.

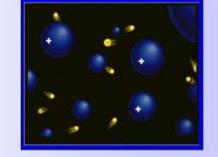
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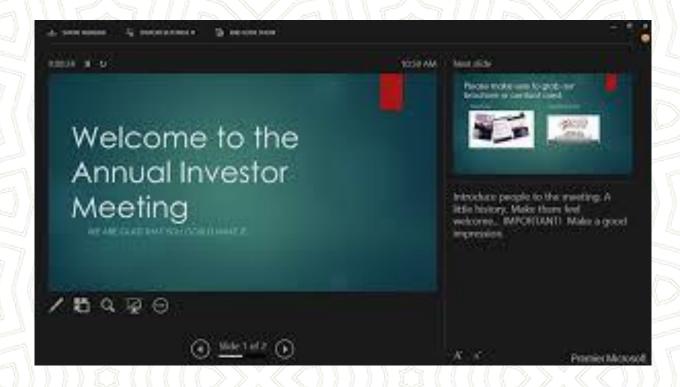


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Keeping Track

- Rely on PowerPoint screen?
- Notes on paper ?
- Cards?
- Memory?
- Script?





Practise

- 3 times by **yourself**
- 2 times in front of **friends/colleagues**
- 1 more time than you think you need to



Timing

- Allow ~1 minute per slide
- Time your rehearsals
- REMEMBER
 - no-one is so important that they should overrun



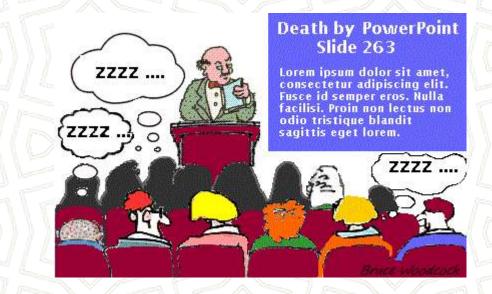
Non-native speakers of English

- Rehearse often, with a native speaker listening
- Record your presentation and listen for areas for improvement
- Structure your slides so that they can be understood even if your words are not
 - more images/diagrams



Body Language

- Face the audience
- Eye contact
- Look out for annoying mannerisms
- Dress appropriately
- Stand up straight
- Lift the head
- Project your voice



During the speech

- Volume
- Speed
- Articulation
- Eye contact
- Ends of sentences audible
- Monotony!



Nerves

- Intangible nervousness
 - accept the nerves and deal with the symptoms
- Tangible nerves
 - work hard to reduce the causes preparation



Nerves

- Dry mouth water
- Shaky hands avoid laser pointer/papers
- Shallow breathing take deep breaths
- Tense muscles tighten and release
- With practise, nerves make a better performance



References

- https://www.kent.ac.uk/careers/presentationskills.htm
- Hilary M Jones, Scientific Conference Presentations

