

# Opening Speech

2019. 9



# Contents

- Introduction
- Structures
- Language focus
- Tips

## Task 1 Pair work - Brainstorm

What does an opening speech do?

- **signals the start** of any special event or occasion requiring a formal opening.
- usu. delivered by the chairperson or a well-known authority in the field or a distinguished guest
- a **prelude** to a conference, setting the keynote of the conference

前奏序曲

## Task 2 Group work - Puzzle Contest

### What should be included in an opening speech?

Each group will be given an envelop containing a sample of an opening speech. But it has been torn into several pieces. You have to read and put them back together in the correct order.

After you finish the work, take a picture and send it to the wechat group of our class.

You should be both correct and fast!

Let's see who's the first to win the contest!



## Task 2 Group work - Discussion

What should be included in an opening speech?

- **Salutation**
- self-introduction (not necessary if you've already been introduced, mostly by the presider of the conference/session)
- **welcoming** words to all the participants
- thanks given to the organizations and individuals involved (optional)
- **significance or uniqueness** of the conference
- information about the **background, contents, and purposes** of the conference
- **good wishes** to the conference and the participants

# Task 3 Class work- Function Match

Distinguished friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning! It is my great honor to give an opening address at the International Symposium on Indicators for Assessing Internationalization of Universities: Reviews and Recommendations. I would like to express my warm welcome to the professors and experts in this field, who have come all the way from Europe, America, Australia, Asia and also from many places in Japan. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, which supports this project.

Osaka University is very active in internationalization. We are trying to make our university really open to the world. As the important one of such activities, we opened

Expressing  
welcome and  
thanks

Overseas Centers for Education and Researches, one in San Francisco in 2004, the other in Groningen University in the Netherlands last year. Through these centers we **aim at** enhancing the exchanges of students, researchers and information. We are often asked how to evaluate the achievements of our efforts to internationalize our university. And above all, what is meant by internationalization of universities. What contents should be in terms of internationalization of universities. **I am very sure that this symposium would shed light on these important questions.**

I sincerely **hope the success** of this symposium. Thank you very much!

Providing  
**background**  
information  
and bringing  
out the **topics**  
of the  
symposium

Expressing  
**good wishes**  
to the  
symposium



# Sample of opening speech 2

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I warmly welcome you to the 19th International Congress of Zoology. There are more than 50 interesting symposia, covering a wide range of branches of zoology such as evolution and systematics, ecology, conservation biology, reproductive biology, diseases, ethics and philosophy. Some symposia will present recent advances of zoology, using modern molecular and biological techniques, some will present new discoveries and applications of traditional zoology, and others will discuss philosophy and ethics of zoology. We are honored to invite some distinguished zoologists to give plenary speeches. The interesting social activities and cultural tours during the conference will give you deep impression.

Welcome  
remarks

Program or  
arrangement  
of the  
conference



In this new century, with rapid and ongoing industrialization, we face more environmental challenges than ever before: invasion of alien species, extinction of endangered species, environmental deterioration, outbreaks of diseases and pests, and so on. Fortunately, we have become more capable in dealing with these challenges in the rapid development of modern zoology.

I sincerely hope that participants worldwide will take this opportunity to exchange ideas, to establish friendships for the future of zoology, and to promote our capacity for solving the conflicts between wildlife and humans.

I **wish** the congress will be **successful and productive**, and wish you to have a very pleasant and memorable experience in the beautiful and historical city of Beijing.

**Background**  
information

**Aim** of the  
conference

Good  
wishes

# Sample of opening speech 3

Distinguished friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning! The autumn is the most beautiful season in Beijing, and it's also the season of harvest. Because the world cement industry has an appointment with Beijing's golden autumn, and the coming of our friends has made this year's autumn extraordinarily pleasant.

INTERCEM (International Cement Conference) has been successfully held in 17 countries. Today its eighteenth opening in Beijing is a great event of the world cement industry, and is especially a long awaited blessing of China's cement industry. What makes us feel honored the most is that our China National Non-metallic Minerals Corporation (Group) (CNMC) is able to undertake this conference as entrusted by INTERCEM and permitted by the State

Opening  
the speech

开场白

Council. As we always say in China, “What a delight it is to have friends coming from afar.” Here I give the warmest welcome to friends who came from all over the world! I also seriously promise that we’ll make our best effort to build a communication platform for Chinese and foreign industries, and that we’ll not fail to live up to the support and expectations from the leaders and colleagues of the industry.

China’s economic development has made achievement that has drawn worldwide attention. Along with this, China’s cement industry is also progressing in a speed faster than ever. As parts of the economic construction strategy, large-scale infrastructural construction and development of Western China will both need a large amount of high-quality cement. This demand has greatly

Extending  
welcome  
to all the  
attendees



boosted the development of scientific research, design, equipment research & manufacture, cement plant construction and other areas of China's cement industry.

During recent years, two big changes that need to be noticed by the world have taken place in China's cement industry. The first is that China's technology of cement industrial production and equipment manufacture has totally matured, and has reached advanced world level. ... The second change is that China's cement industry has entered the stage of quick readjustment. Along with the improvement of technology, the cost of investing in cement in China has largely reduced, and the newly-built production lines have showed great competitiveness compared to the old plants. ...

Introducing  
the  
background  
of the  
conference

Dear friends, INTERCEM had given China its 18th conference. It's a great fortune as for our Chinese, the number 18 is a very lucky number and stands for prospects and success. Today we're pleased to see that INTERCEM participants from all over the world have gathered here in Beijing to discuss the great topic of the world cement development. As the organizers of the conference, we feel extremely pleased, and we also feel very proud of being able to contribute to a gathering like this. We have reasons to believe that today's INTERCEM Asia will be a successful conference! I genuinely hope that all of you will find more opportunities of cooperation, get to know more friends, and make great achievement!

Thank you.

Expressing  
good wishes  
to the  
conference  
and its  
participants

## Task 4 Find out useful expressions and sentence patterns

### ● Welcome remarks

- Please allow me on behalf of ( 代表 ) **the organizing committee** to extend my warmest congratulations on the convening of this conference. I would also like to warmly welcome you—all the participants home and abroad to the conference.
- On behalf of ( 代表 ) **the sponsors**, the School of Nursing, University of Ottawa, and Tianjin Medical College, I would like to express a very warm welcome to the guests, experts and delegates who have traveled here to participate in this academic conference. I would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to all the organizations and friends, who have helped and supported us in organizing this conference.
- On behalf of ( 代表 ) **Nanjing Municipal Government**, I am honored to have the opportunity to welcome you all to Nanjing to participate in this conference.



## ● Thanks

- My heartfelt gratitude (衷心谢意) will be given to Northwestern Polytechnic University as well, who is the sponsor of the meeting and who undertakes all the preparations.
- I would like to thank all of you for your interest and efforts in helping us to make this conference possible.
- My special thanks go to those who have traveled great distances and taken valuable time from their very busy schedules to attend the conference.

## ● Background

- Three years ago, at the 7th International Conference on Linguistics Studies, I suggested that an international symposium on learning strategies be held (举办) Dr. Gu and Dr. Cohen agreed. We are now very glad to have the opportunity of holding the 8th international conference in Nanjing.
- The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology was founded (成立) in Hong Kong in 1972. It has undertaken 20 congresses in many countries of the world in over 30 years.
- The decision to plan this meeting resulted from (缘起于) a growing awareness that the clinical problems associated with this disease are increasing in number and complexity, that our understanding of the basic mechanisms is deficient, and that our current therapy of this disease and its complications should be critically evaluated.

## ● Features of the conference

- There are more than 30 interesting symposia, covering a wide range of branches (广泛涵盖此学科的各个分支) of zoology such as evolution and systematics, ecology, conservation biology, reproductive biology, diseases, ethics and philosophy. Some symposia will present recent advances (最新进展) of zoology, using modern molecular and biological techniques, some will present new discoveries and applications of traditional zoology, and others will discuss philosophy and ethics of zoology.
- This is the first conference in this field in which such a varied group has assembled, including sociologists, psychologists, clinicians, nurses, architects, and even system engineers. Many of these investigators have made important, collaborative contributions to this particular field of our common interest at the experimental and conceptual levels.



## ● Purposes of the conference

- The purpose of this conference **is to** make a general review of our activities during this past year, and to propose new plans for activities during the coming year.
- Our purpose in holding this conference **is to** share our experience and knowledge in regard to the theory, new developments, and possible applications of these two promising techniques.
- This conference **was designed to** integrate the recent progress made by the various biological and medical disciplines in the rapidly expanding field of gene therapy. By bringing together investigators ranging in their interests from molecular biology to pharmacy, we have attempted to present a fairly comprehensive coverage.
- The Pacific Telecommunications Council **aims to** promote the development, understanding and beneficial use of telecommunications throughout the entire Pacific Hemisphere.

## ● Conference programs

- The symposium includes a total of 70 papers for presentation at four sessions every half day. Ample time ( 充足的时间 ) has been allowed for informal discussion. Among the highlights ( 亮点 ) in the program are *tutorial lectures on non-sinosocial functions*, which will be given by EMC engineers.
- The meeting will tackle the key questions of assessing quality, effectiveness, and appropriateness of not only medical devices, equipment, and pharmaceuticals, but all procedures and processes for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as assessments in the public health context.

## ● Good wishes

- We expect that this conference will offer an opportunity for all participants to form personal ties and above all, to exchange results, ideas and projects, from which progress will derive.
- I believe, by way of this conference, the relationship between us will be strengthened and we will innovate more beneficial solutions through the use of artificial intelligence technologies.
- To finish, three days is all too short, but the effect is ever-lasting. I wish all the participants a great visit and success for the future.
- Clearly, our conference's success depends on all of you here—your wisdom, your experience, your dedication, and your cooperation. I wish every success for it.
- I wish the conference will be successful and productive, and wish you to have a pleasant and memorable experience in this beautiful city.



## Task 5 Brains



# 1. Add an adjective

- warm** welcome

*"Luckily the weather is on our side today! The sun and I are pleased to offer you a warm welcome."*

- hearty** welcome

*"Here's a hearty welcome, big and warm enough to encompass you all! To say we are thrilled to see you is an understatement."*

- cheerful** welcome

*"It's my pleasure to extend a cheerful welcome to you all! Your presence makes us very happy."*

- cordial** welcome

*"Fellow members, please join me in giving our guests the most cordial of welcomes."*

- appreciative** welcome

*"What a gathering we have here tonight. We've got dignitaries, celebrities, fans, and organizational members all brought together for one cause. Ours. Here's an appreciative welcome to you all."*

- honored** welcome

*"I look around the stage and am in awe with the collected expertise gathered here. We are deeply honored to welcome you."*



## 2. Would your guests be better described as:

• **esteemed** guests?

• **brilliant** guests?

• **celebrated** guests?

• **dear** guests?

• **admired** guests?

• **acclaimed** guests?

• **cherished** guests?

• **respected** guests?

•

• **revered** guests?

• **wonderful** guests?

• **popular** guests?

• **much-loved** guests?

• **famous** guests?

• **expert** guests?

• **distinguished** guests?

• **honored** guests?

• **valued** guests?

• **appreciated** guests?

• **remarkable** guests?

• **renowned** guests?

• **knowledgeable** guests?

• **treasured** guests?



### 3. What about the word "guests"?

Who, exactly, are these people in the audience?



**Peers** **COLLEAGUES** Collaborators Agents  
Friends WORK-MATES FELLOW TEACHERS  
**Family** *Staff* Clients Customers  
Travelers Professionals MEMBERS ADVENTURERS

Are these people your:

- peers?
- colleagues?
- associates?
- friends?
- family?
- patrons?
- members?
- classmates?
- workmates?

# Forms of Addresses

Your Majesty (陛下) Your Highness(殿下) Your Grace (冕下)  
Your Excellency(阁下) Your Honor (法官大人)

Mr. President/Senator/Governor/Mayor Madam Secretary

President + LN: President Trump

Doctor +LN

Dean +LN

Professor (+LN )

➤ 一般上述职业人士如此称呼：职业+姓氏

➤ 而在teacher,

nurse, driver, waiter/waitress, operator, steward/stewardess, conductor, porter等服务性行业的称呼时,一般直接称呼而不使用姓氏。





★ MADAM ★  
SECRETARY





**Thank You for  
attention!**

