



IIT Madras
ONLINE DEGREE

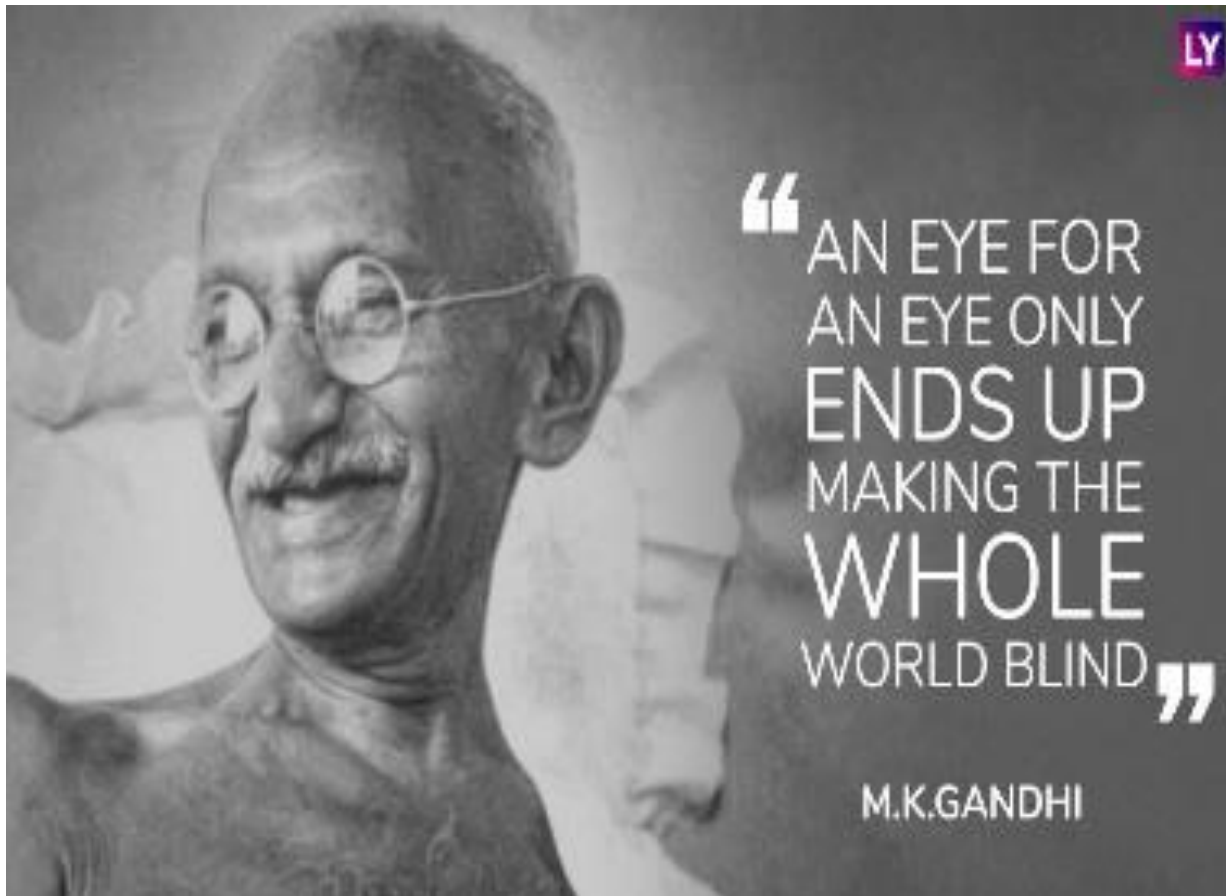
SPEAKING SKILLS

Prof. Shreesh Chaudhary

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

- We speak to give or get information, answer, news, knowledge, joy, to hurt, heal, entertain, encourage, discourage, persuade, convince, dissuade...

- All the great speakers whom we know because of what they had to say.



"Do not judge me by
my successes, judge
me by how many times
I fell down and got
back up again."

Nelson Mandela (1918-2013)
Former President of South Africa





colorization © todayinsci

Nature and
Nature's laws
lay hid in Night:
God said,
Let Newton be!
and all was light.



Alexander Pope

More science quotes at Today in Science History todayinsci.com

- If you have to give a two-minute talk on **”A Civic Problem in Your Area”**, what can you say? You can say some of the following:

- Where?
- What ?
- How much? Quantification.
- Its effects

- In all of the points above, lots can be said. But we must not exceed time. How much can be said in two minutes? You must mention at least the following:

- name of the problem
- name of the place
- extent of the problem, quantity
- its harmful impact

Suppose you mention “Water logged road” in your area.

Problem: Water logged road

- **Place:** On 3rd Cross Road, Nehru Nagar
- **Extent:** Knee-deep water even after an hour long rain
- **Data:** Support it with a photograph in a slide
- **Impact:** Spreads disease, smell, and stops free flow of traffic

- If you do not have enough to say, you may find out.

- Consult search engines on the Net” Google, Wikipedia, other sites;
- Consult local sources, Libraries, Archives, etc.
- Consult local folk-lore, songs, etc
- Consult elders, knowledgeable local senior people, etc.

- Whatever you say must be “**interesting**” to the listener. What makes anything interesting to the listener:

- **Good News**
- **Good Word**
- **Entertainment**

While talking about a civic problem, you can also present data in a different manner as well. You can say the slippery road, or the submerged stretch of the road has caused so many vehicles to collide, to turn upside down, or so many people, including women, old men & women and children to slip and fall down.

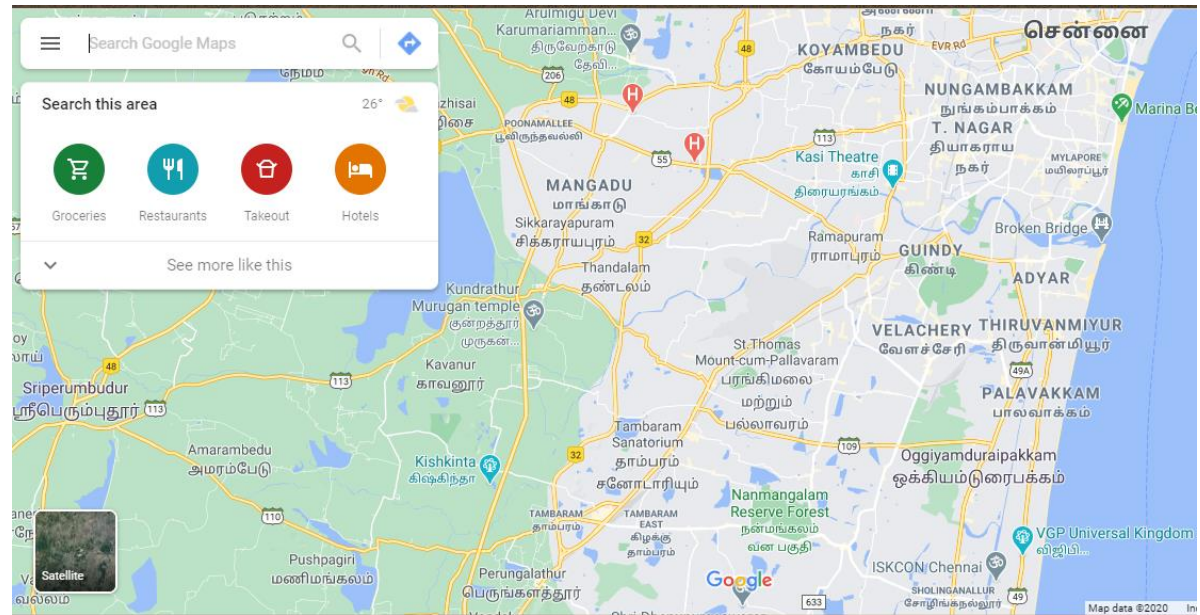
You can also back it up with a photograph.



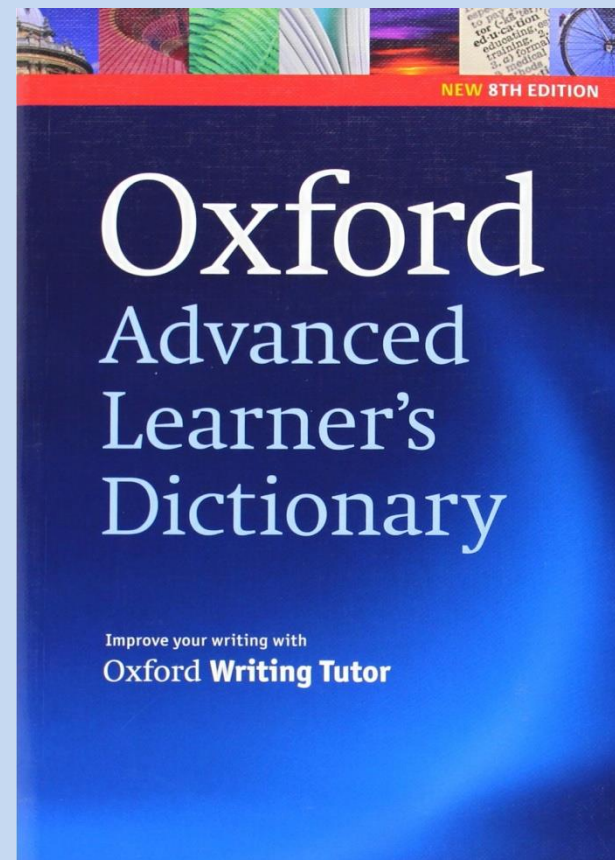
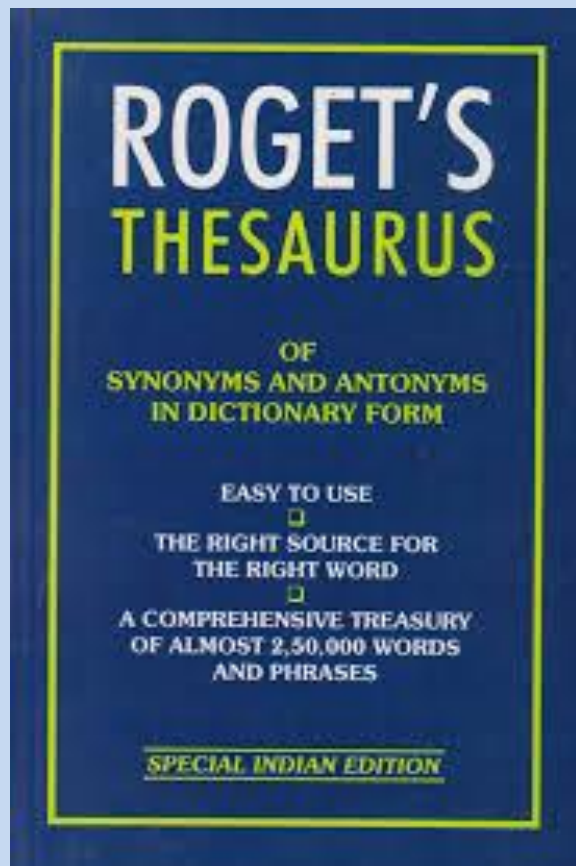
Whatever you say must be **“relevant”** to the listener.
There is no point talking about **“flying to fish”**, or **“swimming to bird”**, etc.

- It helps to research or re-check your facts.

■ See Google map of your area.



- See Dictionary, Roget's Thesaurus for the appropriate word for “water-logging”.



- Check the kinds of harmful effects possible from such spots.
- Check how engineers measure quantity of water in such places, and decide how you will convey this information.

- There are sites that tell you about driving through flooded roads, escaping harmful effects of water-logged stretches of roads, etc.
- If you have limited time for presentation, you should check your facts and how much to say much more carefully.

Once you have done all this checking with sources of local and non-local knowledge, you may have enough data to speak on the given subject. Then you should preferably by rehearsing decide what and how much of what you are going to say.

ACTIVITY

1. Gather information about a civic problem, i.e. a man-made problem, in your area.
2. Talk about it to a member of your family or a friend, with a timer in your hand. You should not exceed time even by a second.
3. Record yourself and see if you can collect, and, using some more sources of information on the same subject, talk again. Compare the two recordings to see what interests you and your readers/ listeners more.
4. Do a similar thing with another listener once again!

Thank you