

Viva Defence; Bad/Good Habits

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December 21, 2023

Master's Thesis Viva: Bad Habits to Avoid

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- ❶ Lack of Preparation

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- Consequence: May give the impression of being resistant to feedback or criticism

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3 Overuse of Jargon

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4 Lack of Clarity in Communication

- Consequence: Creates confusion and makes it difficult for examiners to follow arguments

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6 Poor Body Language

- Consequence: Conveys a lack of confidence and affects perceived professionalism

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- Consequence: Creates confusion and may give the impression of a lack of focus

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- Consequence: Demonstrates an unwillingness to learn and improve, leaving a negative impression

Other bad habits to avoid

- The speaker:
 - Sits
 - Reads
 - Speaks in a dead, low voice

Be careful !

An effective talk must do two things:

1. Persuade you audience with evidence
2. Be interesting and entertaining

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- 2 Stand up

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- ③ Move around

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- ⑥ Imitate excellent speakers

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Michael Faraday on presenting: “[Lectures] depend entirely for their value on the manner in which they are given. It is not the matter, not the subject, so much as the man.”

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Professor David Goodstein on Robert Feynman: “But even when he thought he was explaining things lucidly to freshmen or sophomores, it was not always really they who benefited most from what he was doing. It was more often us, scientists, physicists, professors, who would be the main beneficiaries of his magnificent achievement, which was nothing less than to see all of physics with fresh new eyes.”

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9. Connect with your audience
10. Pretend to be confident

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The important point is not to speak in the same, flat voice throughout your presentation. This will put your audience to sleep.