PRESENTATION SKILLS

by

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• A presentation is an opportunity to communicate your point of view or ideas to an audience. This can be informal or formal, impromptu or prepared, individual or group.

 The truth is, nobody is born a good speaker – good speaking is learned and takes a great deal of hard work.

- Selection of the topic
- Preparation of the presentation
- Know the knowledge level of the audience
- Learn your audience's demographics
- Appearance and physical actions
- Use of voice

- To be a good speaker, be a good listener
- Analyze the audience
- Gather the information
- Know what does the audience expect of you
- Know the level of language and style to be used.
- Time management

- The location of meetings and the facilities provided will have a major bearing upon your ability to give an interesting presentation.
- If you have video, slide, audio, and overhead projector facilities, you will be able to illustrate your report better.

Write a draft and read it aloud.

The first draft should contain the three basic elements:

- **☐** The introduction
- **☐** The discussion
- **☐** The conclusion

- Limit the main points
- Connect the ideas
- Engage the audience
- Arouse interest
- Build credibility

- Pose an unanswered question
- Use appropriate humor
- Quote a recognized expert
- Appeal to solve a common problem

• Rehearse your speech at lest 4 times, if you really want to make a fantastic presentation.

So, practise, practise, and practise again.

- Interacting with the audience
- Using nonverbal cues
- Helping the audience stay focused
- Restate the main points
- Describe the next steps

- Confidence
- Sincerity
- Thoroughness
- Friendliness

- The communication environment
- Personal appearance
- Posture
- Walking
- Facial expressions
- Gestures

- Don't rush
- Maintain eye contact
- Control your posture
- Use appropriate gestures
- Vary facial expressions
- Control your voice

- Focus on the questioner
- Respond appropriately
- Maintain control
- Motivate questions
- Conclude the speech

- Use your body language appropriately
- Be relaxed and natural
- Look at listeners
- Avoid excessive physical movement
- Use visuals when appropriate
- Keep control even when faced with hostile questions

It's natural to feel nervous

- Even after you have practiced constantly, you will still probably feel nervous when you finally get out there in front of your audience.
- The following pointers might help to ease your nervousness and will make the experience much more pleasant:

- When you feel nervous, take a deep breath, hold it. Then let it out with a confident smile. You will be amazed at how this helps to calm your nerves.
- Pause to take deep breaths.
- **✓ Look at your audience.**
- Use gesture appropriately, move your arms around to demonstrate your points.
- Respond to the looks and body language of your audience.

- Say to yourself, 'I have something of value to say, and these people love to listen to me'.
- ✓ Dress one level better than your audience is dressed this gives you further confidence and makes you look professional.
- ✓ Leave yourself with plenty of time don't rush about.

✓ Be early.

- Eat and drink only lightly.
- Have a glass of water by your table.

- Speak slowly, clearly and with impact.
- Project your voice to reach the back row of the audience.

Thanks!

