Technical Writing and Speaking in English Class 10: Presenting Scientific Content

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Presentation Overview

During a scientific presentation, you should split your time as:

- 10% introduction
- 40% motivating your subject
- 30% details and explanation of your work
- 10% difficult concepts of your work
- 10% conclusion

10% Introduction

The contributors' information:

- list the names of everyone in your research project (including images helps)
- add the logo of each sponsor (the lab, the university, etc.)
- if you are presenting in a new environment mention your location

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The presentation's information:

- talk about the overview of the presentation (agenda)
- mention the type of work you are presenting (published paper, ongoing work, research direction, etc.)

40% Motivation

- start with an easy-to-understand concept
- use visualization
- use a concrete example
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Example: you are presenting a new shortest path finding algorithm. Motivation: find quickest way out of an IKEA building after hours being trapped inside.

30% Your work

As a transition step:

- talk about related works
- things that are already known about your problem (it's NP-hard, the previous models are incomplete/unrealistic, ...)

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State the key concepts of your work:

- formalize, and make the description precise and clear
- give a high-level mention of the main achievement
- explain a few selected parts in detail

10% Difficult concepts

In a scientific presentation you have to show that your work was difficult and non-trivial!

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- ideally focus on the main contribution
- explain parts of proofs, experiments, algorithms
- find the balance between showing your expertise and overwhelming the audience

10% Conclusion

- repeat arguments from the motivation section
- connect your contribution to the motivation
- mention limitations, if there is any
- list open questions and potential future work

Your presentation

Next week: you present your research paper!

Your presentation

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Instructions:

- duration: 5 minutes
- submission deadline: Wed, 29 Nov 2023, 11:59 PM !!!
- the presentation is graded
- the grades will include the presentation style as well, not just the content
- the duration can not be exceeded and must not be shorter than 4 minutes