**W3 Module 6 Topic 6.1: Orientations**

Think about how you feel about public speaking and how you feel about yourself as a public speaker. Then reflect on your past experiences as a presenter.

Answer the following four questions and include brief follow up points in your personal portfolio.

1. When I am giving a presentation, I am worried about:

strangers staring at me   
feeling like an idiot   
the audience getting bored   
my mind going blank   
showing that I’m nervous   
my face going red   
losing my train of thought   
talking for too long   
running out of things to say   
the audience not understanding me   
not being able to answer the questions   
saying something that I will regret   
talking too quickly   
not breathing easily / losing my breath   
not speaking loud enough for the audience to hear me   
hearing the sound of my voice through a microphone and speakers   
moving my hands too much when I speak   
not knowing what to do with my body

Choose the concerns that are most significant for you and prepare a **comment** to share with your course peers. Are there particular experiences you have had that stick in your mind or that have dented your confidence? Have you found solutions for those yet, or not?

1. When I am giving a presentation, I am hoping that:

other people will listen to my ideas   
I appear confident   
I look like I know what I’m talking about   
I speak clearly   
I communicate well with the audience   
the audience is interested in what I say   
the audience asks me questions   
I can keep the audience interested and attentive   
the audience will laugh at my jokes   
I will impress the audience   
the audience will want to know more   
the organisers will invite me back   
the audience will learn something about me   
I will connect with the audience on an emotional level   
the audience will feel motivated to take action   
the audience will share their perspective in response   
I can share my own experience with the audience   
the audience will tell me if they disagree with what I say

1. Our public sphere is constantly showcasing examples of excellent presentations. Many of these happen in a business context, but the genres of successful public speaking extend far beyond business communication. Have a look at the categories listed below. Is there a compelling presentation from any genre at all that you have seen that you would like to share with the class? Find a link and bring it with you to the workshop. It might be a fabulous comedy act, a TedX motivational speech, or a storytelling session. In the space below write some comments about why do you like this presentation. Is it the message being communicated or the way the communicator performs, or a mix of both? If you are stuck for ideas, this website might help you out: <https://speakola.com/>.

1. We aim to give you a range of skills that will build your confidence as a presenter. Reflect on your experiences of presenting to date and those skills you admire in others. Then make a note of which skills you wish to improve upon. Write a comment in the space provided confirming what you hope to achieve in your own public speaking journey in the next eight modules and finishing workshop.

Moving while speaking   
Working with space   
Fixes for fast speakers   
Developing expressive variety   
Using vocal emphasis   
Vocal clarity   
Using visual support   
Refining posture   
Breathing  
Structuring your presentation