

Impromptu Speaking Prompts

Feel free to flip the prompt. Use it as a jumping-off point and go where you want to go.

1. What personality trait will be most important to your success?
2. Tell us something surprising about yourself.
3. Tell me one thing that is more important than wealth.
4. Describe something you want to change about [your organization].
5. Advice I'd offer to a new [student/employee at your organization] that nobody told me...
6. I wish I could go back in time and thank _____ for _____.
7. Where would you be if you had not pursued your current career path?
8. Describe a time when you stepped out of your comfort zone.
9. If I was a specific brand of product I'd be _____.
10. I've always secretly wished that I was _____.
11. How do you define success?
12. What the world needs now is _____.
13. Tell us about a time when the usual rules didn't apply, when the right thing to do was not clear.
14. Tell us about a person who's had a significant effect on you.
15. Tell us about a time when something ended – or when something began.
16. What's your most important value and why?
17. What's the best advice you've ever been given?
18. Who's your biggest role model (and why)?
19. Tell us about a time when you were at your absolute best.
20. What's the most difficult obstacle you've overcome?
21. Tell us about an accomplishment you're proud of (or tell us about a flaw that embarrasses you).
22. An asset (or liability) I bring to my next employer is...
23. If I were to write a book, it would be about...
24. If you visit my home town, you should be sure not to miss...
25. Among people who know me well I have a reputation for _____.
26. My parents really wish I would be...
27. Friends tell me I'm good at...
28. Many people believe _____, but I've come to realize_____.
29. I originally thought I'd failed at _____, but now I've come to see_____.
30. When I was 13 I really believed: _____.
31. Nobody warned me that _____ was possible.
32. Few in this room know that I...
33. My primary source of daily news is_____ and here's why...
34. Before I graduate I sure hope that I...
35. If I could have breakfast with any living person I'd choose: _____ (and why)
36. It is very unlikely I will ever _____.
37. I will know I've really made it when I can say that I have _____.
38. If I could relive one day in my life...