Presentation Project: Engineering – An Insider's Perspective

This semester's presentation project invites you to share your passion for engineering directly with those considering it as a career path.

Imagine you're talking to A-level or preparatory students who are weighing their options and thinking about pursuing engineering. Your goal is to give them an authentic and engaging glimpse into what it's *really* like to be an engineer, including the challenges and rewards. Think of it as sharing your own "Engineering - My Story: What I Wish I'd Known." You can work individually or in pairs. (This is a suggestion if you have difficulties picking a starting point, it is optional just so long you stick to a topic that is clearly relevant to your specialty it is okay).

The Task: Description

Choose a topic related to *your specific field of engineering* (e.g., civil, mechanical, electrical, chemical, computer, software, biomedical, etc.). This should be a topic you're familiar with and passionate about. The key here is to be candid and share not just the highlights but also the realities of pursuing an engineering career.

A possible plan to make the most of the 5 minutes is the following use this sample and adapt it to your own topic and theme. OR use your own plan, but make sure it is balanced, organized and easy to follow.

5-Minute Oral Test: Your Engineering Journey

1. **Introduce Your Field (30 seconds)**
   - o Briefly define your engineering discipline.
   - o Mention one key problem engineers in this field solve.
2. **Your Personal Journey (1 minute)**
   - o What sparked your interest in engineering?
   - o Share one challenge and one rewarding experience.
   - o If you could give your younger self one piece of advice, what would it be?
3. **Explain a Concept or Project (1.5 minutes)**
   - o Pick one project or key concept from your field.
   - o Explain how you applied it in real life (include challenges or insights).
4. **Impact & Career Relevance (1 minute)**
   - o Why does this field matter?
   - o How does it affect daily life or society?
   - o What exciting career paths exist in this field?
5. **Final Takeaway (30 seconds)**
   - o Why are you passionate about this field?
   - o One key reason others should consider it.

Presentation Format:

You have the freedom to **choose a format** that you think will best capture the attention of your target audience. Consider these options, keeping in mind the personal focus:

- **PowerPoint Presentation:** Use visuals that complement your personal story and the project or concept you're discussing. Keep the slides concise and focused on supporting your narrative.
- **Podcast/Interview:** Create an engaging audio presentation where you share your experiences and insights, perhaps in the style of an interview with yourself (or with your partner, if working in pairs).
- **Video Diary/Vlog:** Produce a short video documenting your journey in engineering, showcasing a project you worked on, or explaining a concept through your own personal lens.
- **"A Day in the Life" Scenario:** Walk the audience through a typical day (or a specific project) in your life as an engineer, highlighting the challenges, rewards, and the impact of your work.
- **Other Creative Format:** Have a different idea that emphasizes your personal connection to engineering and the "what I wish I'd known" theme? Run it by your instructor for approval!

Important Guidelines:

- **Individual:** working in pairs is not allowed this time.

- **Topic Choice:** The topic must be related to your specific field of engineering and approved by your instructor.
- **Format Choice:** Choose the format that you believe will best engage and educate your target audience while showcasing your personal experience.
- **Time Limit: Each presentation will be strictly limited to 5 minutes.** A timer will be used, and you will be stopped when the time is up, regardless of where you are in your presentation. Only the material presented within the 5-minute timeframe will be considered.
- **Rehearsals are Key:** This is crucial! The time limit is firm, so you *must* rehearse your presentation thoroughly to ensure you can deliver your key points within the allotted time. This will help you avoid rushing, rambling, or being cut off before you reach your conclusion. Practice with a timer to get a feel for the pacing.

Evaluation criteria

- **Content and Delivery:** Your presentation will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
- **Personal Connection:** How effectively do you share your own experiences and insights, including the "things you wish you'd known"? Do you make the topic relatable and engaging through your personal story?
- **Clarity and Accessibility:** How well do you explain your topic to a non-expert audience? Do you avoid jargon and use clear, concise language?
- **Content:** Is your information accurate and insightful? Do you demonstrate a good understanding of your topic?
- **Engagement:** Is your presentation engaging and interesting for your target audience? Do you capture their attention and make them want to learn more about engineering?
- **Delivery:** Is your presentation well-delivered? Do you speak clearly and confidently? (Consider eye contact, body language, and enthusiasm.)
- **Creativity (where applicable):** How effectively do you use your chosen format to enhance your presentation?
- **Adherence to Time Limit:** Staying within the 5-minute limit is essential.

Important Dates: Oral test dates are either **10/04/2025 or 17/04/2025** (students get to choose one of the two options just so long no more than 14 groups book the same date)

First Comes First served so if you have other commitments make sure to book the date that is convenient to you as soon as possible.

Recommendations: Get Started Early: Don't wait until the last minute! Choosing your topic, developing your presentation, and rehearsing will take time. Start working on your project **now** to ensure you're well-prepared.

Rehearse, rehearse, rehearse, rehearse!