

CFW Planning

My argument

- I struggle with oral communication
- I have strong writing skills but face difficulty articulating those thoughts
- Result of introversion and social anxiety - struggled with these throughout high school and even earlier
- New challenge: unfamiliar environment as an international student
- Solution: get out of my comfort zone, engage with others as much as possible within and outside class (give examples of school leadership positions and how they helped)

Conveying the argument

- Emphasis
 - Pausing before certain words and phrases (especially while introducing the problem)
 - Varying facial expressions and intonation
 - Sound effects
- Contrast and color
 - Switching between live video, animations/graphics, flashbacks
 - Transitions / effects (fade, zoom, etc.) - depending on context
 - Relevant backgrounds
- Organization
 - Clear structure (intro, problem, possible solution)
 - Clearly indicating when I'm moving on to another section (e.g. before discussing solutions, "So how can I work on solving this issue?")
- Alignment and proximity
 - Adjusting camera angle (e.g. side profile during flashbacks or demonstrations)
 - Varying camera position / distance between different scenes depending on context
 - Maintaining enough distance that background is visible and relevant

To-do

- Wednesday
 - Create a basic plan of the video (sections, physical locations, which effects to use and where) - can leave more specific details for later
 - Write the script (don't have to follow this exactly, just to get a good idea of what to say)
- Thursday
 - Record the video clips
 - Research and set up video editing software
- Friday
 - Join clips together, apply effects, add music, etc. (can figure out finer video editing details during this step depending on what the software allows and how much I'm capable of)

Video script

Hi! I'm Hamza Qadri from Karachi, Pakistan, and I'm a first-year majoring in Computer Science here at Georgia Tech. This is my Common First Week video for Dr. Fran Tsufim's ENGL 1101 class, which follows the theme 'Memoirs, Belongingness and the University.'

This semester, I anticipate that I'll struggle with effective oral communication. See, I've always had strong writing skills: for me, writing is the medium by which I'm best able to put the thoughts in my head into words. What's more is that if I've already done that, and I'm reading from a paper or memorized text, then speaking those words isn't too difficult either (as I'm doing now). The problem arises when I take out the middleman and try to articulate my thoughts directly. And this is where I start to face difficulty: whether it's in the context of public speaking or even in normal conversations with others around me, I stutter, stammer, second guess myself, and lose confidence.

How can I work towards solving this problem? To answer that, it's important to understand the root cause of the problem, which is my introversion and social anxiety - issues that I've struggled with throughout high school and even earlier. Keeping that in mind, I believe that the only way to overcome this problem is to force myself out of my comfort zone here at Tech, by engaging with others in and outside class. I know this can work because it worked for me in high school - I was a very active member of my school's math and science clubs, and even joined the debate and Model UN clubs, which allowed me - forced me, in fact - to be comfortable around others, and improve my oral communication in the process.

Edited/streamlined script

Hi! I'm Hamza Qadri from Karachi, Pakistan, and I'm a first-year majoring in Computer Science. This is my First Week video for Dr. Fran Tsufim's ENGL 1101 class, which focuses on 'Memoirs, Belongingness and the University.'

This semester, I anticipate that I'll struggle with effective oral communication. Back in high school, written communication was never a problem for me; in fact, writing was the medium by which I was best able to put the thoughts in my head into words. However, as a result of my introversion and social anxiety, oral communication was where I would falter: whether it was in the context of public speaking, casual conversation, or even reading from a script, I would lose confidence, resulting in stuttering, stammering, and often incoherent speech. Now, as an international student in a relatively unfamiliar environment, I foresee that this challenge will be amplified for me.

How can I work towards solving this problem? Well, looking back at high school again, I was able to overcome my social anxiety to a significant extent: I made efforts to establish a strong friend group, was an active member of my school's math and science clubs, and even joined the debate and Model UN clubs. This allowed me - forced me, in fact - to be more comfortable around others, and improve my oral communication in the process. Now, by engaging in class

discussions as well as in on-campus activities outside class, I hope that I can achieve the same outcome here at Tech.

Backdrops, effects, gestures, etc.

- First paragraph: in front of campus, maybe zoom into it at the end of the clip
- Second paragraph: “Back in high ... head into words” - flashback scene, writing and typing. “However ... falter” - speech. “Whether ... speech” - flashbacks. “Now, as ... for me” - speech
- 3rd paragraph: Use animations / doodles here maybe