**Homework For Week One**

Hi, everyone. Please finish the following three assignments and get ready for class discussion next Thursday. You are supposed to share your ideas about the following questions. Your class contribution will be highly appreciated and counted as performance grade.

Thanks for your effort.

Have a cheerful week!

Irene Wang

**Task One:** Please finish the following survey concerning your speech anxiety before you answer the five questions listed below.

Personal Report of Public Speaking Anxiety (PRPSA) （*Reading Material 5*）

[Introversion Scale (jamescmccroskey.com)](http://www.jamescmccroskey.com/measures/prpsa.htm)

1. What is your score in PRPSA or PRCA-24? What is your reflection on the fear of public speaking? (very fearful/somewhat fearful/little fear/ no fear)?
2. Counting presentations in your classes, speaking in front of a students’ club or leading a meeting in an academic setting, how much “public” speaking have you done? Give an example of one of these speaking opportunities and tell us what happened. How did you feel? Was the presentation success? Well received?
3. Can you name a speaker that you feel is really effective? A movie star, a professor, a politician or …? How would it feel to be as calm and engaging as that speaker?

**Task Two**: Read the attached three essays before you answer the following questions.

1. What do you learn from the story of **Demosthenes** after you read the essay *(Reading Material 1)* and watch the video clip? Do you agree that speaking in public is a skill which you can practice and improve? Or do you think it’s an inborn gift just like other gifts you are born with? [Listening Material：【英语演讲】演讲的艺术 The Art of Public Speaking | 全12讲 | 英语字幕\_哔哩哔哩\_bilibili](https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1MC4y1b7jv?p=2&share_medium=iphone&share_plat=ios&share_source=WEIXIN&share_tag=s_i&timestamp=1626859377&unique_k=5894v4) . Only watch the clipped part starting at 17:23 and ending at 23:01.
2. What do you fear the most about giving a speech or a presentation? Have you ever tried any effective methods which help you keep the anxiety under control? Be specific. *(Reading Material 4)*
3. Do you have a new understanding about speech anxiety after reading the two supplementary essays? Do you find anything contradictory to your previous knowledge? How will that new knowledge help you deal with speech anxiety? *(Reading Material 2)*

**Task Three**: Watch the film and the story behind the film before answering the following questions.

[国王的演讲-电影-完整版视频在线观看-爱奇艺 (iqiyi.com)](https://www.iqiyi.com/v_19rrjz3axc.html)

1. What’s your favorite scene in the film? How does it touch your heart or enlighten your mind?
2. How is public speaking different from other communication occasions (e.g. daily conversation)? What factors are involved in the public speaking process? (Cite the King’s speech as an example for analysis)
3. What strikes you most in the film in terms of the fear of public speaking? What do you learn from the movie concerning how to improve public speaking skill? Any impressive methods in the film that you’d like to try?
4. Apart from public speaking skill, what else do you learn from the movie in terms of personal growth or cultural awareness?

**P.S．**

**Sharing Group:** Each member is supposed to give a 3-minute speech on one of the above questions. The length of your speech shouldn’t go beyond 400 words and your speech topic should be different. Don’t make too many claims in your sharing. Stay focused and offer more illustration and evidence so that your audience will be convinced.