

Individual Presentation Reflection

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In this essay, the process I underwent and the result I received from my individual presentation will be analysed and observed upon potential optimisation aspects. If no specific optimisation actions can be identified, it will be explained why in particular.

The background in which I found myself in over the years, is why, me and speaking in public was never big of an issue, if my ideas are clear and concisely structured, as intended, the delivery will not fail.

With the above stated ‘process’ I of course mean the preparing and planning aspect of my presentation. The idea of choosing this particular topic, ‘the access society’ and it´s concept, actually came from a current business portfolio I am focussing on. Hence, the special interest and background knowledge previously acquired in regard to said topic. The preparing and planning process passed faster than expected, as not much research had to be done prior. The perfection of the power-point slides, took as much longer, as the research did not. When choosing themes and designs, what by times arises, is the imminent arrival of a perfection-syndrome. Not as usually seen in form of too much actual working time, but rather the time saving, but decision over-thinking kind. Preparing for the presentation itself, in terms of how, was not big of a problem. The exact planning process of a speech does not work for me, situations always turn out differently than anticipated prior, hence skipping the whole part. Key-words stick in the back of my mind, but a precise plan for how to adequately articulate myself, is not made. Sometimes the audience asks for differently than planned and on the spot quick thinking is required to turn the conversation into one´s advantage.

The only specific problem I deem to have observed after analysing my speech “in post”, was the betimes over-exaggeration of pronunciation and pitch. After all, I do not think much than what I say can or should be majorly improved. Minor enhancements are always to be made, but drastically re-thinking the style in which I give a speech, is not necessary.

What I could have done differently, is prioritising different arguments within my speech about the topic or the topic altogether. In the past, mentors have told me not to try and sell a product when delivering a speech, but I actually think of it having significant persuasive implementations and hence adequate for my purposes. What I believe from this, is that I potentially walk into a future problem with cultural differences and being involved in a culture clash, as my subconscious urge to spreading my opinion and its correctness might throw people off by times.

If I could present again, I would do everything exactly the same, but keep in a little more monotone voice, as I though felt it was over-done, watching myself speak several times. The performance of presenting my idea, I observe as successful, the aspect of including more definite informative material, despite emotional stimulation and a speech intended to be persuasive, could though be enhanced. When facing a more ‘involved’ or ‘difficult’ audience, I might use that as an advantage to raise levels of credibility, having proven data backing up persuasive messages.

The Individual presentation (TED talk) went fine, considering my opinion. The persuasive message was successful, which was the core aspect of the exercise. Periphery aspects such as eye contact, visual material, conclusion and preparation were all more than satisfactory achieved and not treated as less. The overall impression resonated by the audience deem my presumptions as positive.

Particularly the process of actually performing the speech was well managed and allowed an ‘as intended’ state of performance, furthermore being comforting as an environment.