## Presentation Skills

Quick Reference Guide



## 4 P's for Success

- Plan
- Prepare
- Practice
- Perform

'What's your value proposition?'

'Are you likeable?'

"Use the power of your body, your voice and your words"

## Plan

- Identify objectives and purpose of presentation
- Know your audience
- Timing know how long you have
- Collect relevant information
  - Brainstorming
  - Mind map
  - Examples
  - Experience

"To fail to plan is to plan to fail"

Benjamin Franklin

## Prepare

- Energy levels and Concentration
- Content and Structure
  - Clear messages
  - Short sentences
  - o Triads the rule of 3
  - Anaphora word repetition
  - Notes
  - Visual Aids
- For questions

"It usually takes three weeks to prepare a good impromptu speech" Mark Twain

## Practice

- Practice!
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- Practice!
  - Breathing
  - Talking out loud
  - o In front of someone

"I have a dream..."

"Yes, we can!"

Practice does not make perfect. Only perfect practice makes perfect" Vince Lombardi

## **About Performing**

- Relax
- Breathe
- Pause
- Focus on the audience

## **Body Language**

- Eye Contact
- Smile
- Facial Expressions
- Hands
- Posture

## Skills of Performing

- Image
- Comfort
- Energy
- Translation
- Tone
  - o Speed
  - o Volume
  - PitchInflection
  - o Rhythm

## **About body language**

"Intangible qualities are communicated"

#### **Image**

- Adopt centred posture
- Hands in neutral position
- Use gestures for emphasis
- Look at the audience
- Avoid distracting accessories

"Play the part"

## Comfort

- Breathe to reduce stress
- Focus on your audience
- Prepare your state of mind
- Eliminate or reduce barriers – position yourself well in the room.

"Put yourself in control"

## Your Turn!



## Energy

- See and be seen
- Movement to involve your audience
- Eye contact and scanning
- Voice projection applying emphasis

"Show interest and enthusiasm"

## Translation

- Use slower pace for authority
- Modulate the voice
- Use pauses for impact
- Eliminate any distractions
- Avoid negative words

"Stay in control – stay present – and be you!"



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# Make your audience hear, see and feel what you say:

- Use examples, stories, analogies
- Be credible third party references
- Use questions to guide your audience
- Be explicit about advantages, implications or benefits of you
- Summarise and emphasise your key points – leave the best until last
- it will be remembered

## The Opening

## By the end of the presentation:

- What would you like your audience to be able to do / know or take with them?
- Purpose
- How will you get them to listen and engage?
- Hook or Benefit?
- What will be the topic of your presentation?
- Map or path to the goal?
  - 0 1)
  - o 2)
  - 。 3)

## **Knowing Your Audience**

- Who are they, what are their roles, interests?
- What benefits do they seek, what prejudices might they have etc.?
- What is their world all about?
- What is on their minds right now?
- What might they disagree with?
- Your objective what are you aiming to achieve:
  - To tell them about?
  - To persuade them to what?

#### The 3 T's

- Tell the audience what you are going to tell them
  - o Relax
  - Build rapport / Trust
  - o WIIFT
- Tell them
  - Present
  - Seek feedback
  - o Invite questions?
- Tell them what you have told them
  - Reiterate key points
  - Invite questions
  - Closing words

## Consider FAB

- Features
- Advantages
- Benefits

## Why do people ask questions?

Focus on the motivation behind the question:

- Need for information
- Need for clarification
- To resolve a doubt
- A test or set-up

# Give the audience what they want anticipate and rehearse the questions you think might be asked

- A Accuracy
- **B** Brevity
- C Clarity

## 'Don't know' questions

Try to avoid saying "I don't know",

Try other euphemisms, "I'll check that for you", "That's a good question" – perhaps open out to audience or " - I'll get back to you" and/or move to "What I do know is..."

# Effective question and answers

- Keep your answers short
- Check back and confirm they are happy and can move on
- Unless for clarification try not to ask a question from a question

## Using slides

- Use a title to give identity
- Use bullets, letters or numbers to separate
- Always use upper and lower case -NEVER JUST CAPITALS!
- Use colours sparingly avoid red text
- Don't overload 6 x 6 rule

## Do your best for success, relax and go for it!

- Remember, you don't have to be perfect
- Don't deny your fears winners aren't afraid to lose
- Allow your nervousness to be part of your preparation
- Focus on doing your best
- Visualise a successful outcome
- Remember that your audience wants you to be successful
- Give yourself permission to make mistakes

