

Practice 4

Oral professional communication in a foreign language

 **Task 1. Here are some key tips for improving the effectiveness of your public speaking. Which ones are most important for teachers?**

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Here are a few key tips for increasing the effectiveness of your oratorical delivery.

1. Master the pause. Most people are so nervous when they get up to speak that they rush through the whole thing. But they are losing out on employing one of the most powerful oratorical techniques – the pause. A pause can add a bit of dramatic flair to a statement or it can help the audience really drink up an idea. The key with a pause is timing. Use it only in spots where it will be effective – places where you really want to highlight what comes after the pause. “Hello (pause) my (pause) name is (pause),” would not be such a time. Practice inserting pauses in your speech to find what works.

2. Watch your body language. When you are speaking, your voice is not the only thing talking. Your body is also communicating. Your posture, head tilt, and the way you walk on stage all convey a message. Some occasions may require that you carry yourself in a more formal and stiff manner, while other occasions will require a more laid-back approach.

3. Vary your tone. Nothing will put your audience to sleep faster than a visit from android man from the year 2050. Short-circuit the flat, monotonous robot voice and keep things interesting by adding vocal inflections as you speak. Use inflections to reveal that you’re asking a question, being sarcastic, or conveying excitement. You might even exaggerate your inflections when delivering a public speech as many people have a tendency to get timid in front of an audience.

4. Let gestures flow naturally. If used effectively, hand gestures can give added emphasis to your words. If used incorrectly, you will end up looking like an octopus having a seizure. Do not overthink hand gestures; just let them flow naturally. You might want to have someone watch you practice the speech to make sure your gesticulations are not distracting. If they are, adjust accordingly, but do not obsess about it; they are part of what makes you unique as a speaker.

5. Match your speed with your emotion. How fast or slow you speak can affect the emotion you are trying to convey. There are six different

speech speeds and the corresponding emotions they are meant to elicit. They are as follows:

- **Rapid:** haste, alarm, confusion, anger, vexation, fear, revenge, and extreme terror.
- **Quick or brisk:** joy, hope, playfulness, and humour.
- **Moderate:** good for narration, descriptions, and teaching.
- **Slow:** gloom, sorrow, melancholy, grief, pity, admiration, reverence, dignity, authority, awe, power, and majesty.
- **Very slow:** used to express the strongest and deepest emotions.

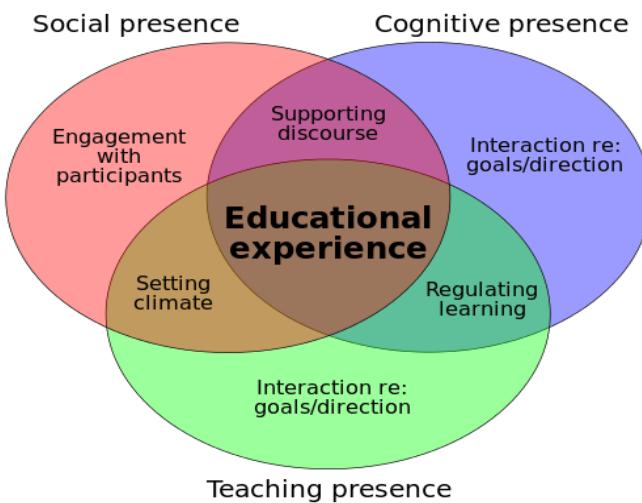
6. Vary the force of your voice. Force is the strength and weakness of voice. Varying the force of your voice can help express different emotions. Anger, ferocity, and seriousness can be conveyed with a strong, loud voice. This does not mean you need to shout. You just need to put a little more oomph in your voice. A softer voice can convey reverence, meekness, and humility. Varying the force of your voice can also help draw listeners into your speech. For example, by speaking softly, your audience has to work a bit more to hear you. It is almost like you are telling a secret to your audience which is a great way to emphasize a point you are making and to connect with your listeners. Like all tactics, this must be used sparingly...don't make the audience strain to hear your whole speech.

7. Enunciate. It is easy to trip over your tongue and slur words together when you are speaking in public. But really focus on enunciating your words as this will make you easier to understand. I have a tendency to mumble and slur words together. A trick that has helped me overcome this is practicing speaking while holding a pencil underneath my tongue. It forces your tongue to work harder as it restricts tongue movement. When you remove the pencil from underneath your tongue, you will be amazed at how much easier it is to enunciate without the obstruction. Tongue twisters help with enunciation, too.

8. Look your audience in the eye. When you look people in the eye, you make a connection. But how can you look an entire audience in the eye? Well, if there are hundreds of people in your audience, you cannot. But you can at least make eye contact with a couple of them. As you go through your speech, work your way across the room making eye contact with several different people in the audience. You will get a strong connection with those people you look in the eye, but you will also give everyone else a chance to look you in the face which can help build a connection. Maintain contact for a few seconds. If it is too short, you will seem nervous and shifty. If you look too long, you will start creeping people out.

¤ Task 2. Think and discuss your future profession. Now we only need a first impression. Add details during homework 4.

1) What are your three most important conclusions from the following picture?



2) How do you view your own role as teacher in high school? What is important to you? What kind of teacher do you want to be?

3) How do YOU motivate your students?

4) What are your three most important conclusions from the following information?

Some facts about memory

- Students capture only 20-40 percent of a lecture's main ideas in their notes.
- After three weeks, most students recall less than 10 percent of what was said in the lecture.
- A lecturer says 100-200 words a minute, and a student hears 50-100.
- In a typical lecture class, students are attentive just 40 percent of the time.

5) Should a lecture be interactive? Explain why.

6) Do you know “the rule of six” for presentations (for reports, distance learning, etc.)?

THE RULE OF SIX

When presenting text on overheads or PowerPoint slides, it is a good idea to use the *rule of six* which means:

- a maximum of six lines per slide
- a maximum of six words per line

If you stick to this rule, you won't risk overloading your bullet charts with too much information.

CHECKLIST FOR VISUALS

- 1 Prepare each visual carefully and separately.
- 2 Check whether the visual really shows what you are saying.
- 3 Make sure your audience can read the visual (font size and colours).
- 4 Find effective headlines.
- 5 Keep design and content simple.
- 6 Use bullet charts for text.
- 7 Reduce text to a minimum.
- 8 Always prepare audience for visuals.
- 9 Present information clearly and logically.
- 10 Remember the rule of six.



7) What do you think are the educational methods associated with K. Tsiolkovsky's quote: "*At first I made discoveries known to everyone, than – known to a few and finally unknown to anyone*"? Explain your answer.

8) Can you explain following "ladder"?

Create

Generate hypotheses, plan and execute something new, actualize

Evaluate

Evaluate, critically review using appropriate criteria

Analyse

Identify and extract central issues/relevant information, structure, separate fact from assumption, derive

Apply

Methodological approach, apply method to new challenges/problems

Understand

Interpret, translate, exemplify, classify, draw conclusions, compare, explain

Remember

Describe, define, name, list, pull out of long-term memory

Active verbs sorted in the taxonomy for learning, teaching, and assessing

Lower levels of learning process		Higher levels of learning process (complex)			
Remember	Comprehension	Application	Analysis	Evaluation	Creation
<i>Memorization</i>	<i>Suggestions, restatements</i>	<i>Use in actual context</i>	<i>Breaking down the whole into smaller units</i>	<i>Criteria-referenced assessment.</i>	<i>Compilation of new models and patterns</i>
Define	Explain	Be able to apply	Identify	Check, Test, Detect,	Categorize
Describe	Distinguish	Calculate	Organize	Monitor	Combine
Mention	Develop	Prove	Structure, Sort	Evaluate	Put together
Choose	Generalise	Discover	Outline, Draft	Compare	Work up
Identify	Give examples	Modify	Illustrate	Reach	Create, Plan
List	Predict	Execute	Point out	Contrast	Generate
Locate	Write about	Carry out	Relate	Raise critique	Conceive
Quote	Summarise	Implement, Use	Select, Divide	Explain, Motivate,	Construct
Recite	Map, Match	Anticipate	Separate	Prove	Explain
Repeat	Interpret	Prepare	Differentiate	Decide	Design
Single out	Exemplify	Produce	Discriminate	Prioritize	Modify
Indicate	Translate	Relate	Distinguish	Support	Organise
Recognize	Classify	Show	Indicate	Defend, Judge	Plan
Retrieve	Infer, Conclude	Read	Integrate	Propose	Reconstruct
	Compare	Draft	Attribute	Take a stand	Relate
			Deconstruct		Summarise
<i>Repeat somebody else's definition of a principle</i>	<i>Explain a principle by using examples of application in the subject field</i>	<i>Apply in an individual way a set of principles used in real life</i>	<i>Being able to separate facts from assumptions</i>	<i>Evaluate the usefulness of these new strategies</i>	<i>Combine a set of principles to make these work using new strategies</i>