Language and Expression

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Academic Presentation Skills
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1. A Talk ≠ A Paper

A Talk vs. a Paper: Sentence Length

All nations are now witnessing a rapid progress in internationalization and globalization brought about by liberalization of economic systems, progress in telecommunication and transportation, and mobility of capital across national borders.

Break up what you can't say in one breath.

A Talk vs. a Paper: Vocabulary

It is advisable for the investor to purchase stocks when their prices are depressed and to sell them at the top of the market.

- Go easy on the big words.
- Replace jargon.

A Talk vs. a Paper: Content

Regional autonomy has created opportunities for local governments to take initiative and be creative in improving public service delivery.

Enrollment rate in primary education has increased by 23%.

Prefer facts to abstract ideas.

How to Turn a Paper Into a Talk

- Eliminate non-essentials
- 2. Rearrange ideas
- 3. Shorten long sentences
- 4. Replace difficult words
- 5. Connect ideas
- 6. Repeat several times!

2. Flow – Make it so.

Internal Transitions (1)

- Refer to flow structure
 - Track the points
 - Refer back to problem

- Use interim summaries
 - Now that you've seen..., I'm sure you'd like to know... Let me tell you... / Let's look at...

Internal Transitions (2)

- Refer to earlier ideas
 - Earlier, you saw.../ As you recall... / As mentioned earlier, ...
- Ask a question
 - What does this mean?
- Summarize
 - As you have seen...

Linking Phrases: Lemme

- Let me explain.
- Let me add one more thing.
- Let me backtrack here.
- Let me rephrase this.
- Let me just mention one exception.
- Let me see if I can give you an example.

Note: Allow me to explain.

3. Confidence

Projecting Confidence

◆ Eliminate uncertainty

 I believe → I am confident that
 I feel → I expect

- ◆ Use the Active Voice
 Mistakes were made → We made mistakes
 Progress is being made →
 - → We're making progress

4. Particular Phrases

Closing

- So, that's all I have to say.
- That's the end of my speech. Thank you for listening.
- I will now finish my speech. I'm sorry for my poor English.

In summary, [summarize]. You can now see how/why [main point]....

Problematic Phrases

- ◆ I'll tell you very quickly...
- ◆ I'm sorry for my poor English...
- ◆ I'm running out of time....
- ◆ If you could read this slide...
- ◆ This is a busy slide...
- This isn't my slide...
- Disregard this slide...

Q & A

At this time I'd like to answer any questions you have.

Thank you!

Thank you for your kind attention.