

Successful Public Speaking

Maryam Alahmar, A.ASCE

Ph.D. Candidate, Colorado School of Mines

Scholar, National Academy of Engineering



Today

- Importance of storytelling
- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
- Speech parts
- Technical Presentations and Visual Aids

Importance of storytelling

Many times public speaking is the only effective way to communicate with your audience.

- It is stressful
- Required preparation

But... it allows you to **interact** and **express** thoughts and feelings and **exchange** opinions and ideas.

Fundamentals of Presenting

- Proper preparation prevents poor performance
- You are telling a story
- Create your storyboard



Purpose of Presenting

- Tell them what you want to tell them...
- Tell them...
- Tell them what you just told them!



Develop Your Central Idea



- Informative, Persuasive, or Performance
- Focus on what the audience should know, do, or feel after the speech

Speech Parts

Speech: Introduction (10%)

- Tell us what you are going to tell us...
- Give Them a Reason to Listen
- Establish Speaker Credibility
- **BE INTERESTING!**



Speech: Body (85%)

- Tell us...
- Clear and Concise
- Use Visual Aids
- Transitions
- **BE INTERESTING!**



Speech: Conclusion (5%)

- Tell us what you just told us...
- Summarize (END STRONG!)
- Provide Closure
- **BE INTERESTING!**

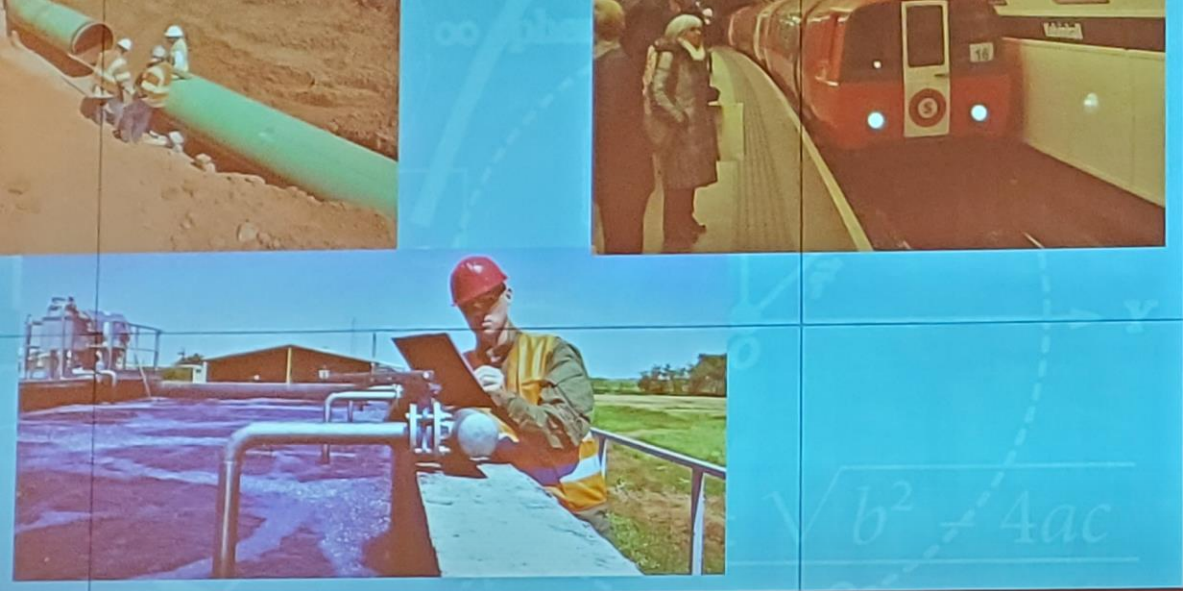


Technical Presentations

- You can still be technical and interesting
- Be strategic, tell us a story:
 - State your research question
 - Discuss your methods
 - Test your assumptions
 - Results (evidence, interpretation, and decision)
 - Discussion and Impact (advancement)

Take Away

- Tell us what you want to tell us, tell us, then tell us what you just told us!
- Know your audience!
- PRACTICE
- Visual aids are your personal support system, but you are the STAR!



Thank You

