

Power Vocabulary

Resources

Audience – a group of people that hears your message

Brainstorm – to quickly develop a list of ideas on a topic; usually a group activity in which members use the ideas of others to spur their own creativity

Communicate – to relay a message that is understood by writing, speaking, or gesturing

Extemporaneous – planned but unscripted; sometimes considered synonymous with “impromptu”

Feedback – criticism or suggestions from others

Gesture – a movement with the hands or body that has meaning

Impromptu – unplanned; unrehearsed; spur of the moment

Inflection – a change or variation in vocal pitch

Introduction – the beginning of a speech; also, a brief setup that announces another speaker or topic

Listen – to hear someone else’s message and gain meaning from it

Nonverbal communication – communication associated with bodily movements, facial expressions, or sounds that are not words (compare to “verbal communication”)

Persuade – to influence someone else to think a certain way or do something

Presentation – a speech that shows an audience how to do something

Props – physical items such as pictures, drawings, or objects that make a speech more interesting; they also give speakers something purposeful to do with their hands

Public speaking – making a formal or informal speech before a group of people

Story – an account of something that happened; it might be real or fiction

Tone of voice – a variation in the voice that expresses mood or emotion

Verbal communication – communication associated with language (compare to “nonverbal communication”)

Visual aids – props that enhance or reinforce the message

ORGANIZATIONS

Toastmasters International

P.O. Box 9052
Mission Viejo, CA 92690
(800) 993-7732 (voice mail
information line)
www.toastmasters.org (Internet)

Nonprofit organization in which members learn public speaking skills by speaking to groups and working with peers in a supportive environment.

ONLINE RESOURCES

The Ally & Bacon Public Speaking Web site

www.abacon.com/pubspeak

Abraham Lincoln Online

The speeches of Abraham Lincoln
[Showcase.netins.net/web/creative/
lincoln/speeches/speech.htm](http://Showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln/speeches/speech.htm)

The Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress

[http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/
alhtml/malhome.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/alhtml/malhome.html)

The History Channel Speech Archive

Audio of history’s famous speeches (Martin Luther King Jr., John F. Kennedy Jr., Lou Gehrig, and others.)

[http://www.historychannel.com/
speeches/index.html](http://www.historychannel.com/speeches/index.html)

The E. Pluribus Unum Project

Extensive links to speeches on women’s suffrage, slavery, politics, and other issues.

[http://www.assumption.edu/ahc/
rhetoric/oratoryarchive.html](http://www.assumption.edu/ahc/rhetoric/oratoryarchive.html)

Story Arts Online

www.storyarts.org

BOOKS

How to Talk to Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere:

The Secrets of Good Communication

Larry King with Bill Gilbert
Crown Publishers Inc.
New York, 1994

What! I Have to Give a Speech?

Thomas J. Murphy and Hennessey Snyder
Grayson Bernard Publishers
Bloomington, Ind., 1995

Speechcraft: An Introduction to Public Speaking

Brent C. Oberg
Meriwether Publishing Ltd.
Colorado Springs, Colo., 1994

The Art of Public Speaking

Stephen E. Lucas
McGraw-Hill Inc.
New York, 1992

Speaking Up, Speaking Out: A Kid’s Guide to Making Speeches, Oral Reports and Conversation

Steven Otfinoski
Millbrook Press
Brookfield, Conn., 1996

VIDEO

The Speeches Collection (videotapes for purchase)

<http://www.mpihomevideo.com/>