

Giving a presentation on a scientific subject

Pre-task:

Discuss your experiences with giving a presentation on an academic science subject. Is giving presentations part of the assessment of your course? Have you given a presentation yet at university or at a (student) conference? If so, what was the topic and how did it go?

Task 1:

Go to [this website](#) of the most popular science TED talks, choose the one you find most interesting and watch the first minute of the video. Discuss whether you felt this was an engaging way of introducing the topic: what worked well, and how could it have been better? Also, discuss whether you think this style of giving a talk would be appropriate to an academic presentation.

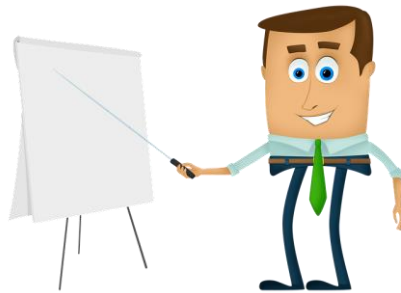


Image 1

Task 2:

Now practice giving a short presentation to your partner on an academic topic of your choice. To give you some inspiration, here are some ideas:

- Give your partner an overview of your favourite science module.
- Provide a summary of your last term paper.
- Which area of science do you find most exciting at the moment and why?
- Talk about a publication of one of the researchers at your university.

Try to give the presentation an engaging introduction, and include a conclusion at the end. Your tandem partner can help you if you get stuck and can give you feedback on what worked well and what could be improved.

My topic is ... / I am going to speak about ... / In this presentation I am going to introduce ...

First of all ... / To begin with ... / I'd like to start by looking at ...

Next I would like to ...

The next point I would like to discuss is ...

Right, let's move on to ...

I'd now like to look at ...

Subsequently ...

Finally ...

To sum up ... / In conclusion ... / Just a quick recap of my main points ...

Follow-up activity:

Go back to the TED Talk video you started watching earlier. Fast forward to the last part of the video. What phrases are used to conclude the talk? Was the conclusion effective? Would this style of concluding the topic work for an academic presentation?

Sources

Link 1 https://www.ted.com/playlists/181/the_most_popular_science_talks

Image 1 <https://pixabay.com/en/businessman-cartoons-training-607831/>