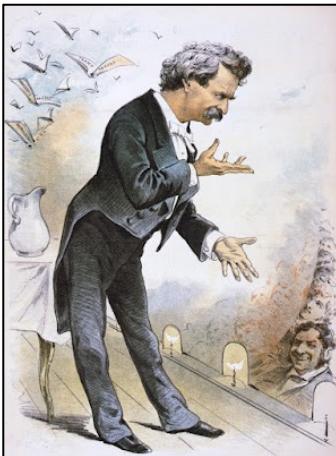


Standing up in front of colleagues and giving a short speech can be daunting for many. Falling back on a set of given words like you have available when working with 'ritual', can be a comfort as at least you know what you are supposed to say. Giving a talk where the words are more of your own, can make you feel a little more exposed.



“There are two types of speakers, those who get nervous and those who are liars.”

Mark Twain

In the London Support repository there are a few pointers that might help you to deal with any nerves and to help you prepare. The areas that are covered include:

Know your audience | Get the timing right | Preparation is key
What to say | Delivery is all

You can find many helpful videos on YouTube covering “How to give a better best man’s speech” through to tips on giving full sales presentations to hundreds of people. They all contain useful information but many of these will be considered “overkill” by many Knights who feel that all they have to do is stand up in front of their Preceptory (*as usual*), say a few words in front of other Knights (*as usual*), know what they are going to say (*as usual*), not get tongue tied when saying it (*as usual*), and answer any questions (*as usual*).

However, there is something about talking on a new subject, particularly when your audience has a degree of expectation, and all the ‘*as usual*’ things can suddenly become ‘*unusual*’.

Everybody deals with this differently and no two people are quite the same. As a general rule, whatever works for you is the right way forward! Remember the end game.

The end result is that you want to have an audience that has enjoyed your talk, were pleased that you gave it and are now more interested in the subject than they were before you started.

The individual topics are not linked in any particular way and one area **IS NOT** any more important than the other. You may be fortunate that learning facts comes easily but having to deliver then is awful; or that you have no qualms about standing up and spouting aloud, if only you could remember what it was you were trying to say.

Take a look at each area, they all have tips, tricks and most importantly, simple, solid information on how to get it right. 3 key areas we deal with in depth are:



Know your audience

Why are they there? What are their attitudes towards your subject? We help by providing examples that they can relate to and help you to build a connection, after all, not everyone may be in KT.



What to say and how to say it

People are driven by emotions as well as thoughts and ideas, so we help you to appeal to their feelings as well as their minds. Your delivery can make the difference. Be enthusiastic. Be moved.



Less is more

Keep it simple. A single stunning fact with a pause is more effective than if you reel off 10 points at top speed. This affects slides, materials or handouts you may choose to use, just as much as what you say.