

**A STUDY OF ENGLISH SPEAKING PRESENTATION TECHNIQUES
OF BACHELOR OF ARTS STUDENTS IN ENGLISH PROGRAM AT
MAHACHULALONGKORNRAJAVIDYALAYA UNIVERSITY**

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Abstract

The purposes of this study are 1) to study the English Speaking Presentation Techniques of Bachelor of Arts Students in English Program at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University. 2) to propose the solution of English Speaking Presentation techniques of Bachelor of Arts Students in English Program at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University. The number of the participant are consisted of 134 persons. The instrument used in this research is both qualitative and quantitative method. The tools used for collecting data were questionnaire, in-depth interview, and participant observation with students and then the information was analysed by using percentage, means, averages and standard deviation (S.D). The result of this study had found that the presentation techniques of the students were at high level of average and every question is not less than 3.50. The suggestion for presentation techniques had found that the students should prepare the topic, gathering information, more practice, gain more confidence. Furthermore, students should have enough information, and enough preparation.

Keywords: English Speaking, Presentation techniques, Students

1. Introduction

The presentation skill is one of the most important skills for university students because the students must do presentation for their assignment and also the students have to discuss about the subject that they study in. In fact the presentation skill is not just important for university students but it is popular for business, group, leader, social networks, and even individual. The oral presentation plays an important part in professional communications. A recent survey of more than 700 managers rate the ability to communicate ideas and plan effectively in front of audience as important career skill. (Rebecca E. Burnett, 1994: 620). In addition, Reinsch and Shelby examined the importance of communication abilities as viewed by employees. Young professionals who had recently left the workplace to begin an MBA program were asked to describe specific communication needs and to identify the needs embedded in action. They took the view that management communication courses should be refocused to define oral communication more broadly so as to prepare graduates for some of the more common types of challenges. (Reinschi, N.L., jr., & Shelby, A. N., 1997: 23)

Presentation skill is the tool for communication to transfer knowledge which is presenters or speakers research from what they have been studying. If presentation skills are improved, presenter or students will be a good communication in front of many people. Good presenter can be come a good public speaker because they are connected with each other. To tell the truth, Presentation can be used to inform, motivate, persuade as well as order or change listener's attitudes or ideas. In addition, because of listening to presentations, the audience can be easy to gathering knowledge about a given title. Thus, presentation is widely used on a daily basis as conference speech, press briefings, sales presentation etc.

2. Objective of the study

The objective of this study is the following.

2.1 To study the English speaking presentation techniques of Bachelor of Arts Students in English program at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University.

2.2 To propose the solution of English speaking presentation techniques of Bachelor of Arts students in English Program at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University.

3. Research Methodology

The research is aimed to study English Speaking presentation techniques from Bachelor of Arts students at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University. This research is using quantitative and qualitative research method.

Quantitative research proposed questionnaire for collecting information from the participants are asked about the general background and presentation techniques information.

Qualitative research was related to the participant observation in the class when they were making presentation and then analysing its result gathered from Bachelor of Arts students of Faculty of Humanities and Buddhism under Mahchulalongkornrajavidyalaya University. The purpose of this study is to explore the techniques of English speaking presentation. And also it is providing questions for in-depth interviews with participants about English speaking presentation techniques.

4. Result of Study

The information shows that there are 130 male students which are equal to 97.0 percent and there are 4 female students which are equal to 3.0 percent. Therefore, most of Bachelor of Arts students who are studying at Faculty of Buddhism and Faculty of Humanities are males. About age of students, there are 17 students aged between 20-25 years, equal to 12.7 percent which is the lowest from all numbers of 134 students. There are 96 participants aged 26-30 years, equal to 71.6 percent and 21 participants aged 31 years up, equal to 15.7 percent. Year of study of students shows that, the second year students have 32 persons, equal to 23.9 percent, which is less than the fourth year students consisting of 49 persons which are equal to 36.6 percent. The number of third year students is the highest than second year students and third year students, which are 53 participants equal to 39.6 percent. Moreover, for participants who are studying at Faculty of Buddhism has 64 participants, which are equal to 47.8 percent. Students of Faculty of Humanities have 70 participants equal to 52.2 percent.

According to level of result on respondents' attitudes to the presentation techniques, as for an introduction is at high level of question 1 which is equal to 3.49 percent, and question 2 which is equal to 4.04 percent. Moreover, about the body of presentations for all questions which are at high level of question 1 which is equal to 3.99 percent, question 2 which is equal to 4.07 percent, question 3 which is equal to

3.87percent, question 4 is equal to 4.19 percent, and question 5 which is equal to 4.33 percent. As for delivering the messages is at high and moderate level for question 1 which is equal to 3.91 percent, question 2 which is equal to 3.58 percent, question 3 which is equal to 3.48 percent, question 4 which is equal to 3.29 percent. About using voice for question 1 which is equal to 3.71 percent, question 2 which is equal to 3.85 percent, question 3 which is equal to 3.76 percent, question 4 which is equal to 3.51 percent.

Moreover, about conclusion for question 1 which is equal to 3.86 percent, question 2 which is equal to 3.93 percent, question 3 which is equal to 3.85 percent, and question 4 which is equal to 3.31 percent. About the presentation supporting techniques for question 1 which is equal to 3.92 percent, question 2 which is equal to 3.60 percent, and on the presentation preparations for question 1 which is equal to 3.77 percent, question 2 which is equal to 3.87 percent, question 3 which is equal to 3.93 percent, question 4 which is equal to 4.00 percent, and question 5 which is equal to 4.12 percent.

As I have done research that many of participants of presentation in the way. Anyway the presentation techniques of students are; Introduction, Content of presentation, Body language, Delivering message, Using voice, and ending or conclusion of their presentation.

On the other hand, researcher has done the participant's observation and interview with participants about presentation techniques that using by them. Opening or introducing the topic is very significant for the presenter because it give a chance to let the listener know about how the topic is interesting for listening. At the point, many participants state that they introduce themselves, their topic, and how it is going on. Some of them will use interesting quotes for that and then begin. So participants say that they should have enough interesting quotations, clear understanding of their topic, strong voice, and enough practice. These points are extremely important to their English presentation. During the presentation, the presenter should pay attention to the audience's level of interested.

Participants delivered their message to the audience loudly and used a microphone plus visual aids. So, visual aids are so important for the presenters, they can make the audience understand and be clear about the information. These visual aids include computers, PowerPoint, and sometime whiteboard. Moreover, the benefit

of using visual aids is to make the participants more interested, and to increase their concentrate during the presentation.

Body language is also popular for making the audience to be interested in presentation. Truly, they do care about it. Because, as a saying "Actions speak louder than words", he never ever forgets to use the body language when working on the presentation. To make the audience not to forget what has been said is a good conclusion. For the conclusion of presentation, participants use the conclusion for the audience when making a presentation and making it short and sharp. Finally, the presenter says vote of thanks to the audience for their attention." On the other way, let the listeners know first, letting them know like this can help the presentation to be more active because after they know the presenter will end the presentation, they will be patient and concentrate on the presentation, for instance, the presenter always makes them happy before conclusion.

5. Conclusion

To conclude that the participants have 134 persons most of them are the monks who are studying at faculty of Buddhism and Humanities and most of them who are 23 to 30 years old. For questionnaire result there are at high level the level of presentation techniques of the students has been found that most of respondents know the English speaking presentation techniques which is at the high level as shown at below.

Introduction. It is found that most of respondents use the presentation techniques of introduction which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.76$ average.

Body of presentation. It is found that most of respondents use the presentation techniques on body of presentation which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 4.09$ average.

Delivering messages. It is found that most of respondents use the presentation techniques about delivering messages which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.56$ average.

Using voice. It is found that most of respondents use the presentation techniques about using voice which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.70$ average.

Conclusion. It is found that most of respondents use the presentation techniques about conclusion which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.73$ average.

Presentation supporting techniques. It is found that most of respondents use the techniques presentation about presentation supporting techniques which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.76$ average.

Presentation preparations. It is found that most of respondents use the techniques presentation about presentation preparations which is at the high level equal to $\bar{x} = 3.93$ average. On the other hand, at the below researcher conclude from participant observation and interview with them.

The Techniques presentations of Bachelor of Arts students have the time to prepare for their presentation and they do that. Most of them believe that preparation is a good way to get the audience's interest on their speaking, which is supporting to be confident on presentation. Speech preparation is very important for students to minimize their presentation.

Introduction is very significant for speaker because when opening confuses the audience they will be bored with that talking. Here most of students will make an introduction by themselves and prepare the topic to audience first. Actually we can add a good quote that is in accordance with the topic or short story to tell the audience and giving an introduction to make the audience want to listen about the information that speaker has made the research.

Delivering a message is so important for a speaker. So, a good presenter should know how to deliver the message to an audience. If messages are not clearly received, then it is a boring class. During the presentation, the presenter should be aware whether or not the audience is interested and whether they can hear or not. The presenter can deliver message by using microphone, speaking loudly, and using other visual aids as PowerPoint, computer, and hand out.

Most participants organize their presentation into introduction of the topic, body of the presentation, and the conclusion. On the other hand, some of participant preview the main points or main topic. Other techniques present the information from the most important to the least important, describe cause and effect, or progress chronologically. Additionally, they give a link between parts of the presentation Using connecting words such as first, second, and then, finally etc. The participants should search for accurate information for their topic to make the content clear to the audience then they will be a good speaker on the stage.

The conclusion is the final points to make an audience remember the speaker and the topic of the presentation. Most of participants conclude their

presentation by summarizing all information in short, and repeating the important point for the audience. To introduce the conclusion, the participants will say “So now let me go to the conclusion, my conclusion is, etc.” Furthermore, participants read from the text and explain by themselves for a few minute and then say thank you for your attention to the audience. This is the way participants conclude their presentation.

6. Suggestion

Presentation gives learners an opportunity to speak in front of many people. For a successful presentation activity in this course we will present the issues of benefit of presentation techniques as the following:

The Bachelor of Arts students must have skills in English language such as reading, speaking, listening, and writing.

The Bachelor of Arts students have to acquire knowledge in presentation skills.

The Bachelor of Arts students should prepare the topic gathering information or data. And students should practice more and more before making a presentation. And should learn the presentation techniques for improving communication skills, learn to pronounce clearly, gain more confidence when making a presentation, clear an accent, and try to make the audience to understand what the speaker is saying.

Furthermore, as a suggestion from participants, the presenter should have enough information, enough preparation, and adequate practice. And Presenters have to make a short noted for not to miss the main points, and to practice more and more.

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