The voice is the most powerful instrument that we have as speakers, but most new speakers and a lot of experienced ones only use a fraction of what is available to them. The points below can help you explore what your voice is capable of.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Pause | Pace | Pitch |
| Possibly the most impactful thing you can do. This shows the audience where they really need to listen. | Varying the pace can indicate changes in emotion or urgency and keep people engaged. | Putting a different inflection on words can change their meaning (question, challenge, plea, statement, etc.) |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Volume | Breath | Clarity |
| You need to be heard to make an impact! Look for clues that you are reaching the back of the room… strained eyes, turned heads. | Try to maintain your breath pressure to the end of each sentence. Practice finding out how long you can speak for on a single breath. | Take the time and use your facial muscles to fully form all your words, allowing your audience to clearly hear them. |

One of the big keys to spoken communication is making our intention (what our purpose is) align to our meaning (what we are trying to say). Making complete use of our voice is a huge part of achieving this. Be courageous and try to discover the broad range and depth that your voice can reach so that you can fully access your vocal power.