Top Ten Tips on Team Speaking

Association of Speakers Clubs

Thinking and acting as a team is essential for this to be successful. To this end the following tips may be helpful:

1. Allow plenty of time to prepare. Meet up with other team members well in advance to think about your ideas and how they can come together to produce a winning format.

2. What is going to be your theme? What will each person's speech relate to?

3. Each person writes and rehearses their individual contributions.

4. Have an initial run through and see how the three elements are blending – adjust as necessary.

5. Decide on the dress code. This should illustrate the theme of the phrase if possible. If there is nothing which stands out in this regard just decide that you will perhaps all wear one colour – anything which gives a sense of unity is important. How are you going to present the speeches – standing in a line, each person taking centre stage? Be clear on your choreography.

6. Meet up to ensure there is a cohesive blend of facts, humour, and performance, with seamless interaction. Is it clear to the audience how your individual speeches contribute to the main phrase?

7. Keep rehearsing until the presentation is seamless and within the allowed time. No notes should be used if possible.

8. Have a dress rehearsal with any props you might be using

9. Remember you are a team- interact with each other and do not just speak to a script.

10. Have fun – look as if you are enjoying the other speeches and the whole experience will come alive.

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