Toward Better Literacy: Reference Outlines



Addressing an Audience

Three main Rules:

- Write out completely word for word what you will say
- Practice this for timing
- Reduce this to an outline to use during the talk
- Make contact with friendly eyes during the speech

Establish a level of connection.

• Knowledge, beliefs, interest, relation and situation

Use a structure, tone, style, and purpose appropriate for the audience.

- Structure: timing, transitions
- Tone: attitude toward subject
- Style: formality and complexity
- Beliefs, attitudes, values and experiences
 - o Political, social, religious, philosophy
 - o Know if and when to express: appropriateness
- Purpose: what is writing going to accomplish and to what is audience responding
- Peers: Help them to understand
- Instructors: figure out what they want
 - o Follow conventions
 - Demonstrate knowledge
- Public audience (know and provide context)

Voice includes pitch, pace, tone, rhythm, register and accent.

- Tone is controlled by:
 - o Adapting perspective or point of view
 - Selection of words
 - Emphasizing words or ideas over others
 - Choosing patterns of inflection
- Control pace with pauses (in speech) or punctuation (in writing).
- Types of voice:
 - o Private: off record
 - o Personal: identify with speaker
 - o Informative: methodical, ordered, no value judgments
 - o Committed: judgments with emotion
 - o Reflective: thoughtful, informal