

## Introducing yourself in presentations

*If you walked up to people in this class right now and said “My name is..., I work for...” or “I am... I am a... year student in... studying...”, what might the reactions be?*

*What does that mean for giving a presentation to this group of people?*

*What are the dangers of starting a presentation with “My name is..., I work for...” or “I am... I am a... year student in... studying...”? What might be better to say instead?*

*What phrases could you use when starting a presentation in this class?*

*Compare your ideas with the phrases under the fold.*

-----fold, cover or cut-----

- As you know,...
- I know almost everybody’s name but mine is a bit difficult to remember so...
- I know some of you came to my last presentation, but...
- I only recognise one or two faces, so I’ll start by introducing myself.
- I think all of you know my face, but perhaps not my name, which is...
- I think most of you know my name, but in case you’ve forgotten...
- I’ve introduced myself to a few of you, but for the others...
- I’ve spoken to many of you before, but in case I forgot to give you my name when I did so...
- There are a couple of my friends here, but for people who don’t know me...

*Underline the phrases above which mention numbers of people.*

*Put the sentences into order by how many people they refer to.*

*Circle other useful phrases above.*

*Brainstorm words similar to “perhaps” in order of probability, like you did with numbers of people above.*

*Write your own introducing yourself sentence.*

*Check your partner’s sentence, thinking about:*

- Does it match how many people know their face and name?
- Is it likely to be different from what other presenters say?

*What other information can you give about yourself? What criteria does that information have to match?*

*Compare your ideas with the criteria on the next page.*

### Criteria for personal information you can give in a presentation introduction

- Amusing
- Helps you make a personal connection
- Interesting
- Related to your presentation topic or a surprising contrast to your presentation topic
- Surprising more generally

*Which are the most important criteria, do you think?*

*What phrases could you use to match the things above (especially thinking about the most important criteria)?*

*Compare your ideas with the list under the fold.*

-----cover, fold or cut-----

- Although I am studying.../ working as.....
- Because I'm..., the topic I've selected is...
- I first became interested in this topic when...
- I often..., which is why I've decided to present on the topic of...
- I was inspired by... to...
- I was obsessed with... when..., and therefore I thought it might be a good topic to present today.
- I'm... and so I've chosen to speak about...
- It was easy for me to choose a topic because I have spent lots of time...
- My personal connection to this topic is...
- One of my earliest memories is of..., and more recently...
- The first thing that came to mind when I was asked to give a presentation was... because...
- This is an important topic for me because...
- You might be surprised to hear that I...

*What information about yourself could you give that is related to these topics? Choose a topic below for your partner. They should introduce themselves, starting from their name and other personal information, then linking that to the presentation topic you chose for them. How well does it all tie together?*

Ankle injuries	Autumn	Boating
Brown rice	Candles	Charismatic CEOs
Dandelions	Hitachi	Holidays for the elderly
Hunger strikes	Michael Jackson	Microsoft Office XL
Office furniture	Roller skating	Seattle
Shaking hands	Socks	Spain
The 18 <sup>th</sup> century	The London Underground	The most recent elections
The year 2015	Starbucks	Wearable computers
Weight training	Work/ Life balance	
Yugoslavia		

*Work together to write introductions for your own presentations and choose the best.*

**Personal information that you can put in a presentation introduction**

- Ambitions/ Goals
- Big changes in your life
- Buying habits/ Spending habits
- Changing your mind about something
- Childhood
- Favourites/ Likes and dislikes
- Friends and family
- Health and fitness
- Hobbies/ Interests
- Hometown/ Places you have lived
- Influences on your life/ ideas
- Meaning/ Origins of your name
- Near future
- Organisations you belong to
- People you have met
- Possessions
- Previous work/ studies/ volunteering
- Recent past
- Routines/ Habits
- Things you have written about
- Things you listen to/ have listened to
- Things you read/ have read
- Things you watch/ have watched
- Travel
- Unusual experiences