

Strategies for Communicating for Specific Purposes

Purpose for Speaking	Preparation
To share ideas to inform others to contribute to group work to demonstrate understanding	 Have your facts straight—be sure you know as much as you think you know. Think about how to present your ideas so they will be well-received.
To share a point of view or opinion to persuade others to balance the ideas of others to communicate an opinion	 Make sure you are positive about your point of view or opinion. Make sure you can support your opinion with proof/evidence. Think about how other people will respond to you, and be prepared for debate.
To share an interpretation to demonstrate understanding to help others understand	 Make sure you really understand the information and know how to explain it clearly. Think about how you want to come across (your image), and plan how you will communicate your ideas.
To describe an experience to make connections to support a position or idea	 Make sure the experience you are describing has a meaningful connection to the situation or conversation. Make the connection clear to others so they understand why you are sharing the experience.