

The Lucky Thirteen

A "Yes" List for Public Speaking

1. I like my chosen subject and feel comfortable with it.
2. I have talked with other students and know that they will enjoy hearing about my subject.
3. I have memorized my attention getter and can comfortably deliver it with no notes.
4. My purpose statement consists of one or at most two, good, strong, clear-cut sentences that tell my audience exactly what my subject is.
5. I can readily identify the main points in the body of my speech.
6. Each of my main points is supported with a careful blend of information: stories, comparisons and contrasts, specific instances, humor, statistics and facts, quotations, and visual aids.
7. My memorized conclusion provides an interesting ending so that my speech does not abruptly stop.
8. I have carefully organized my material so that I may speak comfortably using notes.
9. My notes are neat with no crossovers or mark outs, and I have not written on the back side of any card or paper.
10. I have practiced beginning my speech with a three-second pause during which I address the audience with my eyes.
11. I have practiced my speech aloud, start to finish, a minimum of ten times.
12. While practicing aloud, I have concentrated especially on good posture, dramatic movement and gesture, and an appealing, enthusiastic rate.
13. I have practiced ending my speech with a two-second pause during which I address the audience with my eyes.