

# A POWERFUL VOICE

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## Off The Cuff

Nine times out of ten, when I ask a client: "When do you feel most comfortable during your presentation?", the answer is: "During the Q and A at the end". This isn't surprising. When you speak off-the-cuff, there is no script. You're no longer performing, trying to "get it right". You are live, natural, and authentic, and can connect to your listeners with more ease, in the moment. The trick is to make your whole presentation feel that way.

### Here's one simple tip:

Use bullet points instead of a strict script. That way you will access most of the information from your brain, not the page. Using bullets as your cues, your words and accompanying feelings can flow more naturally, and you'll feel more at ease.

## Affirmation

Some use affirmations, some use a sentence or a thought. Find something to say to yourself that humanizes your audience. Keep trying till you can physiologically feel the nerves relax and go away.



## When you use slides...

Presentations are often accompanied by a deck of slides. One thing to remember is that slides are static. They don't compare to the animation and inflection of your face and voice. Once read, the information has been obtained and the reader often checks out. How do you keep them engaged? When using slides, you and your voice have to work harder. Make sure you know how you feel about each slide and let those feelings come through in your voice.



This is especially true in the virtual world. When the slide goes up, you become so small, and are sometimes not there at all. Remember you have to work harder to when they don't see you in order to keep them engaged!

**“Communication - the human connection - is the key to personal and career success.”**

**By: Paul J Meyer**