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Be Clear in Your Vocal Expression

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Be Clear

RATE

- ▶ Speed at which a person speaks (including the number of pauses and duration of vowel sounds)
- ▶ Average rate of speaking for Americans is 140 to 160 words per minute

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Be Clear

PITCH

- ▶ Highness or lowness of a voice
- ▶ Similar to pitch in music
- ▶ Voice tones high or low on the scale

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Be Clear

VOLUME

- ▶ Loudness or softness of a person's voice
- ▶ Often referred to as projection

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Be Clear

TONE OR QUALITY

- ▶ Sometimes called “timbre”
- ▶ Characteristic of sound that distinguishes one person’s voice from another

Remember, you can cultivate your voice!

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Be Clear

ARTICULATION

- ▶ Articulation is the art of expressing yourself distinctly
- ▶ This process stresses the clear enunciation of sounds that form a word and the correct placement of an accent within a word.

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Be Clear

ARTICULATION: ENUNCIATION

- ▶ Enunciation is oral communication that derives from clear, correct, and distinct use of vowels, consonants, accents, and other language properties

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Be Clear

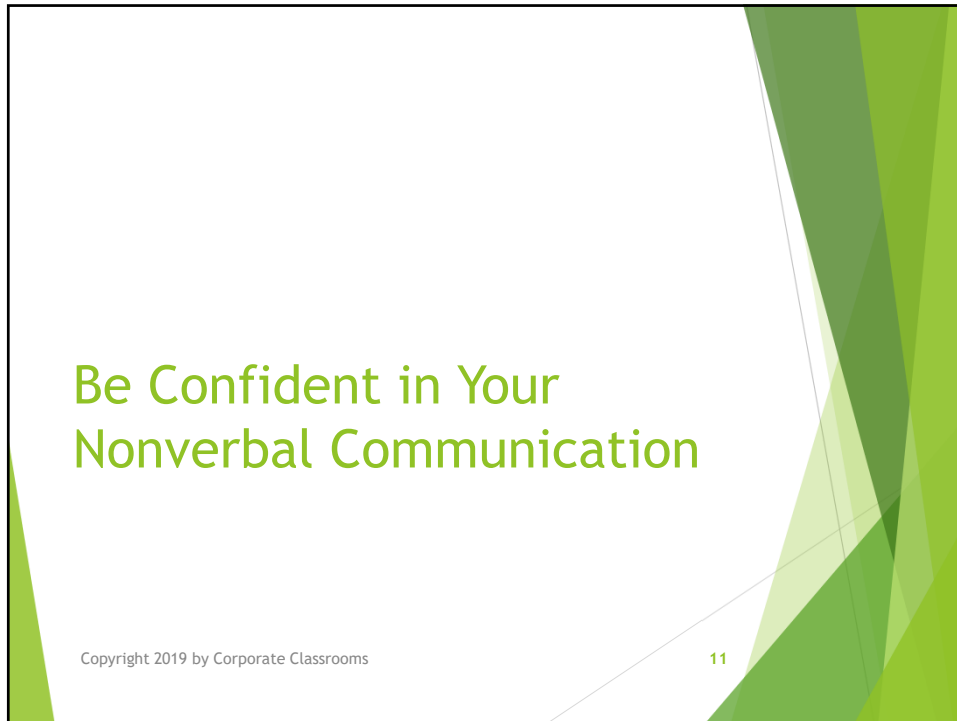
ARTICULATION: PRONUNCIATION

- ▶ Pronunciation is the correct application of syllables and accents when sounding out words

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Be Confident

Eye Contact

- ▶ The single most important element in storytelling is eye contact.

Eye Contact Is Communication

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BE CONFIDENT

EYE CONTACT

- ▶ Connects you immediately with your listeners.
- ▶ Gives you instant feedback about your listeners' reactions
- ▶ Emphasizes your points
- ▶ Validates your listeners

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Be Confident

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

- ▶ Reinforce the messages you deliver to your audience
- ▶ Add visual appeal to your speaking style
- ▶ Serve as a public relations agent for your attitudes, actions, and convictions

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Be Confident

GESTURES

- ▶ Add sparkle or *soul* to any story—whether short or long
- ▶ Support and clarify your messages
- ▶ Must be natural and appropriate for your purposes

Note: The larger your audience, the larger your gestures should be.

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Be Confident

POSTURE

To be effective, your posture

- ▶ Demands poise, purpose, and respect for your listeners
- ▶ Requires shoulders back, stomach in, and feet firmly planted on the floor or ground
- ▶ Demonstrates your self-confidence, awareness of others, and enthusiasm for your message

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Be Confident

EXPECTATIONS

- ▶ Affect all of your words, thoughts, and actions
- ▶ Reflect in your eyes, facial expressions, gestures, and posture

Don't forget...
Expect to do well and you will do well.

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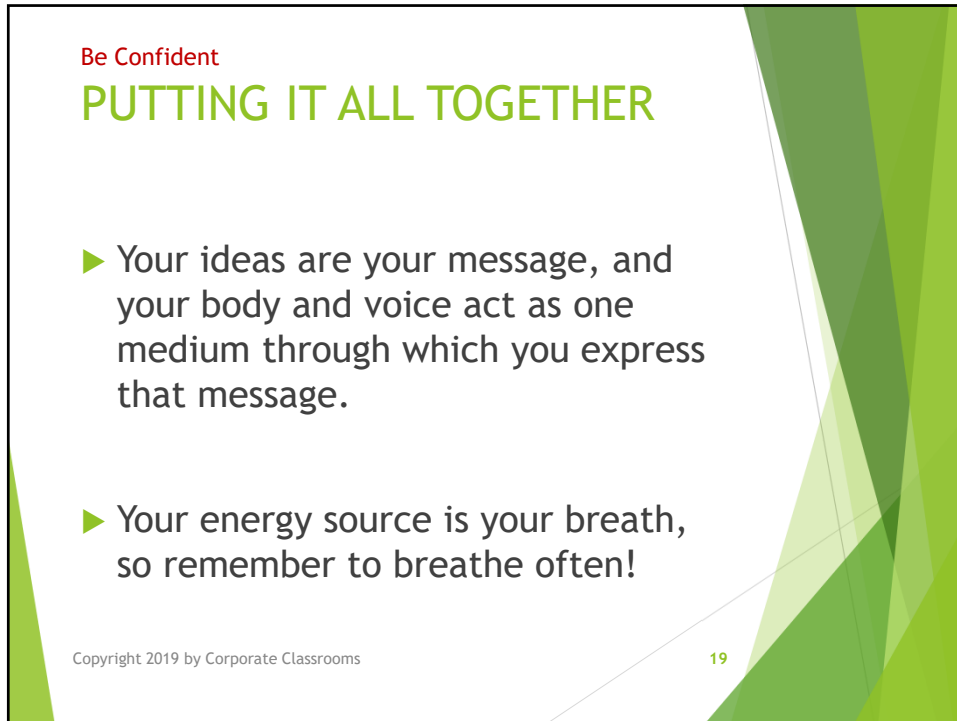
Be Confident

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- ▶ Your ideas are your message, and your body and voice act as one medium through which you express that message.
- ▶ Your energy source is your breath, so remember to breathe often!

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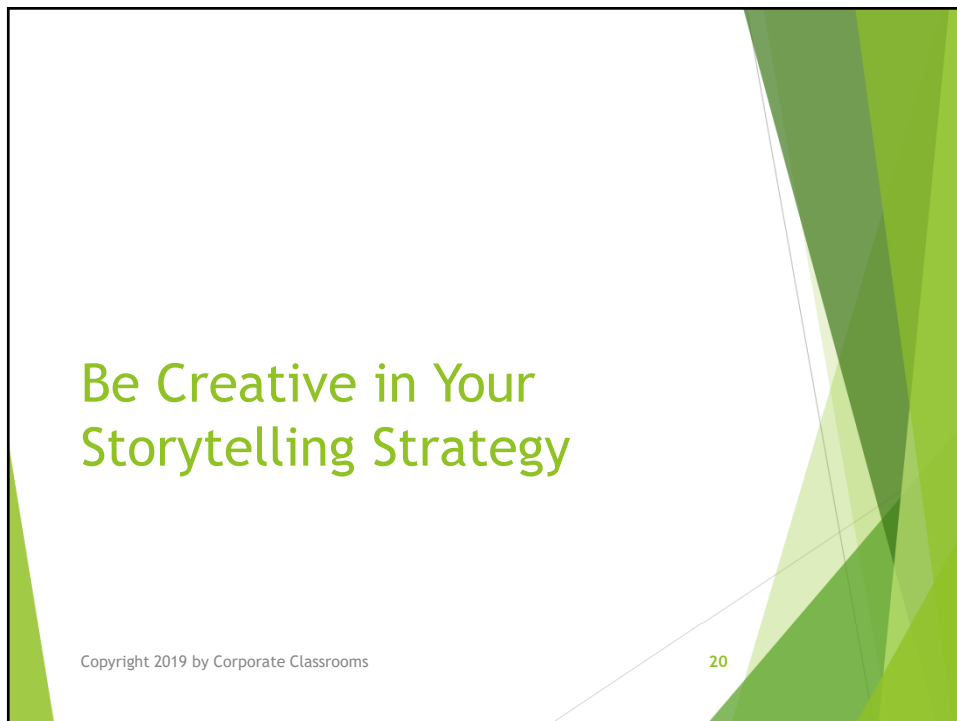


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Be Creative in Your Storytelling Strategy

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Be Creative

Strategy

- ▶ Begin your story with a startling statistic, probing question, or dynamic statement.
- ▶ Set the scene of your story with vivid, colorful, and specific details.
- ▶ Add verbal and emotional effects throughout your story to enhance its appeal for your listeners.
- ▶ Remind your audience of your story's theme by tying its different parts together.
- ▶ End your story gracefully, expressively, and powerfully.

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- ▶ Begin your story with a startling statistic, probing question, or dynamic statement.
 - During the first 90-minute session of our workshop, 11 people in the United States will die of an opioid overdose. *
 - What specifically defines a racist?
 - My grandmother wasn't the typical granny or nana. She loved liquor, fast cars, and off-color jokes. But she was also the kindest and most nonjudgmental person I have ever known.

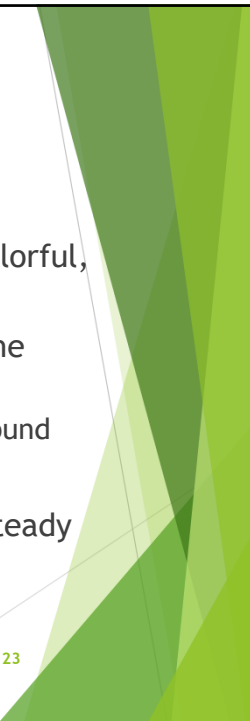
* According to a December 19, 2018 report by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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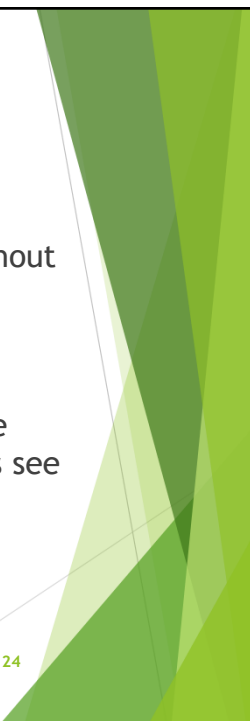
How to Be a Great Storyteller



- ▶ Set the scene of your story with vivid, colorful, and specific details.
 - There were six empty chairs around the dinner table that day.
not There were a lot of empty chairs around the dinner table that day.
 - The night was foggy and cold with a steady drizzle coming down.
not The night was really awful.

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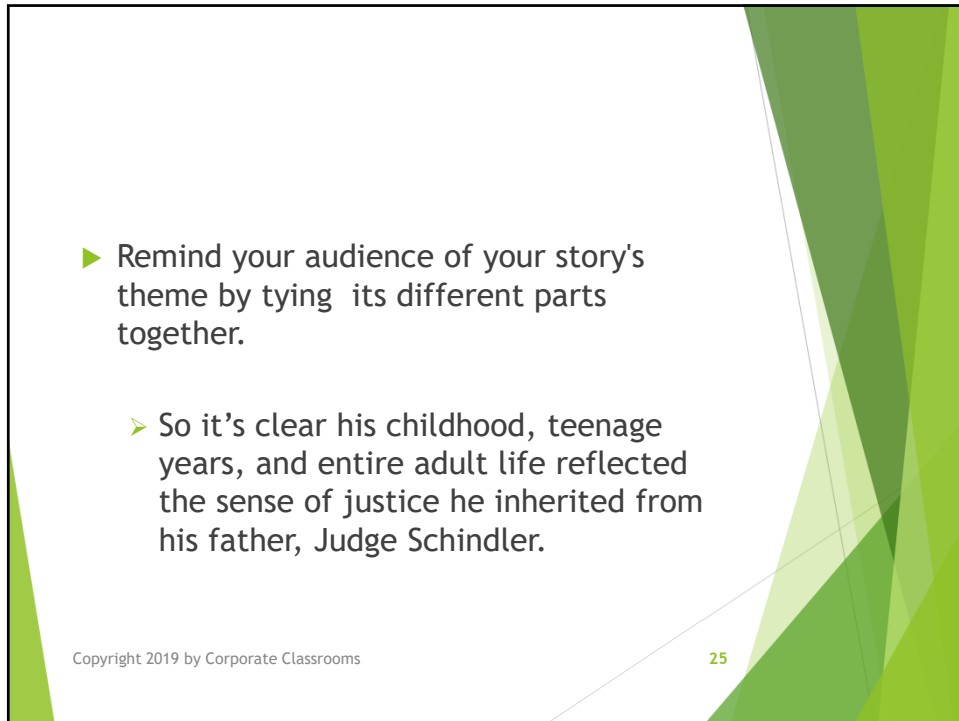


- ▶ Add verbal and emotional effects throughout your story to enhance its appeal to your listeners.
 - This seven-year-old boy has seen more tragedy and violence than most adults see in their lifetimes.

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How to Be a Great Storyteller

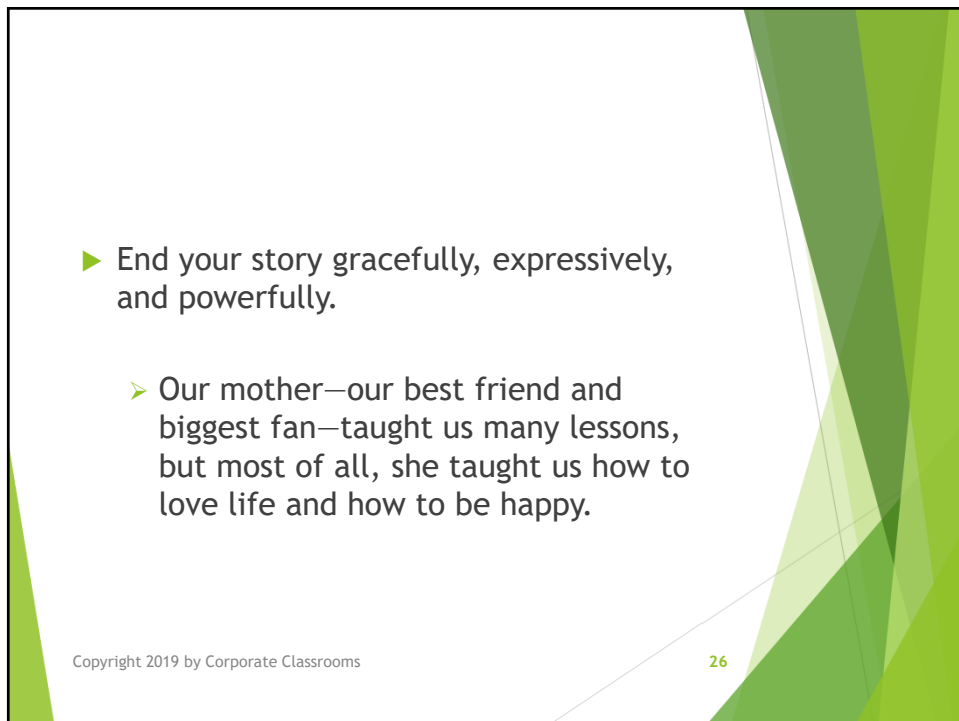


► Remind your audience of your story's theme by tying its different parts together.

- So it's clear his childhood, teenage years, and entire adult life reflected the sense of justice he inherited from his father, Judge Schindler.

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► End your story gracefully, expressively, and powerfully.

- Our mother—our best friend and biggest fan—taught us many lessons, but most of all, she taught us how to love life and how to be happy.

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The Six Potential Pitfalls You Face as a Storyteller

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The Six Potential Pitfalls You Face as a Storyteller

- ▶ Speaking in a monotonous voice.
- ▶ Being redundant with your thoughts and ideas.
- ▶ Failing to relate your story elements in a consistent manner.
- ▶ Getting "off track" from your story.
- ▶ Forgetting clarifying point(s) you want to make.
- ▶ Lacking enthusiasm for both your story *and* for entertaining your audience.

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