

Giving a Speech Without Notes

Nervous about giving a speech without flashcards and not sure where to start? Here are a few tips!

Don't write your speech out like an essay or script

This will make it harder to memorize and you will be more thrown off when you miss a few words or sentences.

Instead, make an outline and have a few main points that you can memorize

If the main points are arranged in a narrative, it will be even easier to memorize.

Example Speech Topic: Bike Riding

Main point 1: How I got my first bike

Main point 2: How I learned how to ride my bike

Main point 3: An adventure I had while riding my bike

Start big and work your way down

When you first start practicing, start with a sheet of paper with your main points on it. Once you're comfortable with that, condense your points and use a notecard. Then condense your points even further on the notecard. Finally try without the notecard.

Practice!

The more you practice your speech, the more comfortable you will be with it and the easier it will be to remember.

If you practice in a way that creates muscle memory (Ex. On my second point, I will move to the left side of the screen), that is even better!

Don't try to be perfect!

It's okay if your speech is a little different each time you practice! That actually makes it sound more natural.