

# Five Effective Attention Getters

## 1. Personal Narratives

Sharing a brief story about a past experience is an effective way to introduce the topic of your speech and establish your credibility as the speaker. It helps build a connection with the members of the audience and allows them to connect with you through shared experiences. This attention-grabbing technique can also be used to evoke certain emotions early on from the audience and draw them into listening to the rest of the speech. Note that it is important to keep personal narratives short and to the point to ensure the introduction remains brief!

## 2. Rhetorical Questions

Posing a rhetorical question to the audience members at the start of the speech instantly fosters engagement and allows them to begin thinking about the topic of discussion. Additionally, rhetorical questions are an effective technique to help the audience start building connections with the topic and can be used to provoke certain thoughts or feelings from the listeners as well.

## 3. Statistics

Beginning a speech with a shocking or interesting statistic is an effective method to establish credibility as the presenter and instantly provoke specific reactions and emotions from the audience. It is important that the statistic is related to the topic of the speech in some way. Additionally, this attention-grabbing technique is especially useful when attempting to call the audience members to action by causing them to think or feel a certain way.

## 4. Quotes

When incorporating a quote at the beginning of a speech, it is important that it is relevant to the topic of the speech and that it will resonate with the audience. It is also essential to keep in mind the reputation of the source that the quote came from in order to effectively establish your credibility as a speaker and encourage audience engagement.

## 5. Interactive Activities

Introducing your topic of discussion with an interactive activity is an opportunity to be creative in directly engaging the audience. This could be in the form of performing a demonstration for the listeners, having the audience participate in an exercise, or having them answer thought-provoking questions out loud. This technique helps create a more interactive experience for the audience members, encouraging them to continue listening.