The Seven Voices of Extemp

The art of delivery

Emotions

Before we get any further, everyone should generate a list of 5-7 emotions that encompass the human voice.

Now, we'll share those out loud with everyone else.

Voice #1: Upset

- Eyebrows slanted towards center, voice slowed, raised voice; NOT anger.

- This is used when expressing disappointment, typically at government inaction or an individual's improper behavior.

- "I am DISAPPOINTED in what has happened."

Voice #2: Sadness

- Slower voice, lower (almost quieter) pitch, pausing

- Similar to upset emotion, but more staggered. Typically used when describing a sad impact, like warfare, death, poverty, etc.

- "I CAN'T BELIEVE that this has been allowed to happen."

Voice #3: Informative

- Monotone, easy inflection pattern, methodical speed

- Great for providing background information during your introduction or before the "meat" of a point

- "This is what's happening."

Voice #4: Hopeful

- Slight smile, open eyes, open face, stand up straighter, faster speed, higher pitch

- Can be refreshing, especially since most extemp speeches take the gloomy, pessimistic route; great way to end your speech or a point.

- "If this happens -- lives could be saved."
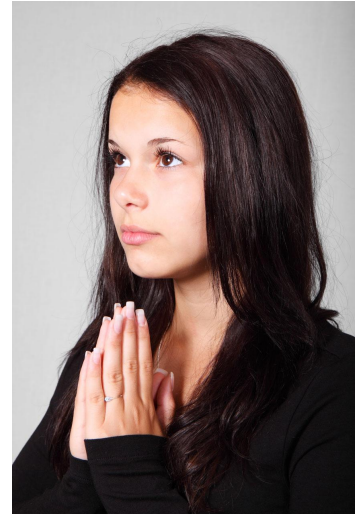
Voice #5: Excited

- Higher pitch, open smile

- Hopeful is more about future expectations; excited is about current situation

- "This event is REVOLUTIONIZING what we do."
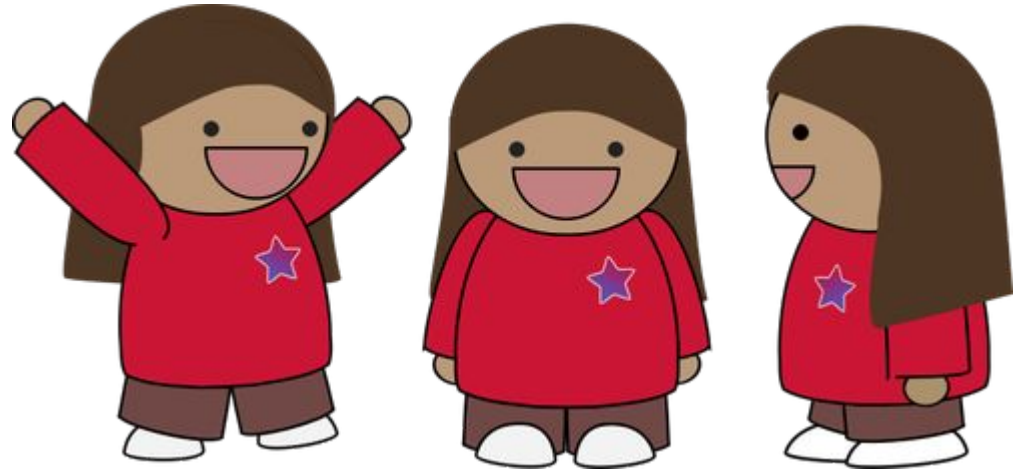
Voice #6: Persuasive/Smart

-   Narrowed eyes & focused

-   Speak like a politician or a debater explaining why their position is right. After all, extemp is a PERSUASIVE activity.

-   "I just told you HOW important this is and I know WHY this is so important"

Voice #7: Ridicule

- Pursed smile, raised eyebrows, open eyes, slowed down to emphasize how stupid thing is

- Great for AGDs or whenever a politician says something dumb

- "I can't believe this happened. Why would anyone want this?"

Practice Time!

"Write three different tones next to each sub-point on your flow (include one for your on-top as well if you can). Maybe your background is informative, your B is hopeful, and your c is persuasive. Stop between each tone, clap, and change. Have a coach guess which tone was which. Then do it again without the clap but keep the sharp tone change." -Olivia Shoemaker

*Doing this with each sub-point also helps with memorization."

Take an Onion Article & read three paragraphs, each with a different emotion -- have people try to guess what emotion you were trying to emulate.