

Constructive Criticism

Task 1:

Many students find presentations challenging. However giving presentations is in fact good and important practice for many professions, where both speaking in front of a group of people and giving constructive criticism yourself will be standard tasks.

What are your experiences with presentations? Have you ever given a university presentation in a foreign language? What feedback did you get? How open and direct can you be with feedback? Discuss.

Task 2:

What are the main points to keep in mind when giving presentations? What do you find particularly hard/easy? Can you give each other tips, e.g. for nerves?

After discussing the above, read these [tips for constructive criticism](#).

Which tips do you find helpful? Did you know some of those methods already? Discuss them.

Task 3:

Watch a presentation on a topic from your subject area, for example on Youtube. How did you like it? What feedback would you give? Use the following phrases:

Positive:

I liked the presentation very much.

The speaker explained the topic very well/well/vividly/logically.

The speaker has a pleasant voice.

What I liked especially was, how the speaker explained/illustrated/clarified/presented the topic XY.

Phrases for suggestions for improvement:

What this person should/needs to take care of, is not to talk too fast/not to mumble/...

Another thing one could/should/must keep in mind is ...

One should also include/add topic/subtopic XY.

Remember that you should end your criticism with something positive/motivating!

Task 4:

Prepare a short presentation about a topic from your subject area and thereafter offer constructive criticism to each other. Use the phrases from the box above.

Sources

Link 1 <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/hr/guidesandsupport/performanceatwork/pdpr/documents/pdprprinciplesofconstructivefeedback.pdf>