

Your Default Approach Assessment for Presenters



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Handout

Instructions

- Print this PDF
- Take the assessment on page 3
- Add your score for each column
- Study page 4 and confirm the accuracy of your score
- If you assess as:
 - A Writer, study the pathways on pages 5 & 6
 - An Improviser, study the pathways on pages 7 & 8

| | Α | В | |
|--|---|---|--|
| I feel that if I put a lot of work into my slides, I'll succeed. | 0 | 0 | I feel that slides are just a part of an effective presentation. |
| Organizing information comes easily to me. | 0 | 0 | Speaking to groups comes easily to me. |
| Whether it's true or not, I feel I'm more likely to succeed if I practice my presentation. | 0 | 0 | Whether it's true or not, I feel that I can wing it and be okay. |
| If I could, I'd deliver my presentation, then answer questions about it. | 0 | 0 | If I could make them that way, my presentations would be nothing but a series of questions and answers. |
| Having to make last-minute adjustments to my presentation frustrates me. | 0 | 0 | One of my fears is delivering my presentation and getting no response from my audience. |
| I like preparing more than presenting. | 0 | 0 | I like presenting more than preparing. |
| For me to feel confident, my presentation needs to take a logical path from A to B to C. | 0 | 0 | For me, a successful presentation could follow any path. |
| I spend a lot of time making sure my presentations are thorough and accurate. | 0 | 0 | Even when I have plenty of time to prepare, I often delay preparation until the last minute. |
| I feel confident that my presentations are well organized. | 0 | 0 | I feel confident that I can engage my audience in the conversation. |
| When I'm delivering a presentation, I often get too wrapped up in the details of my slides and forget about my audience. | 0 | 0 | When I'm delivering a presentation, I often lose track of or get ahead of my slides. |
| I feel that I am naturally organized. | 0 | 0 | I feel that I am naturally disorganized. |
| Timing the presentation exactly is part of being well prepared. | 0 | 0 | I tend to run out of time. |
| I find it difficult to speak off the cuff. | 0 | 0 | Speaking off the cuff is easy for me. |

3

Assessing Your Default as a Presenter

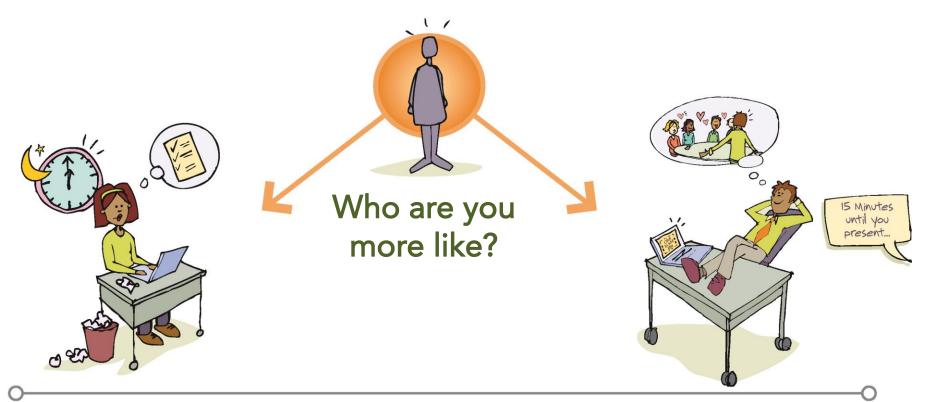
With each pair of statements, choose the one that describes you better.

Try not to answer them in terms of how you would like to see yourself, but in terms of how you actually are, or have tended to be in the past.

Add your score for each column.

Your Score: _____

Default Approach



WRITERS Thrive with organization and preparation

Often feel there isn't enough time to prepare. Want structure and predictability. Are naturally thorough, careful, detailed, and accurate.

But can be inflexible and strict during delivery

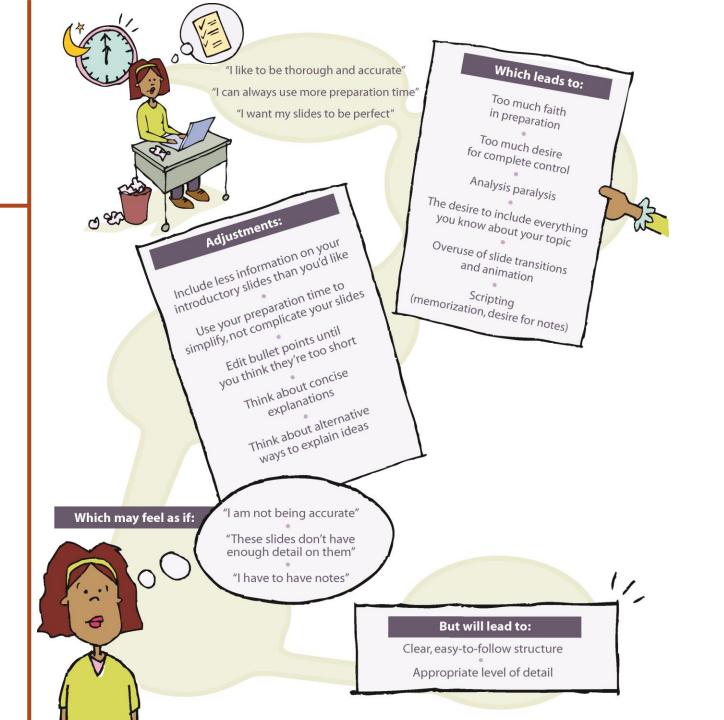
IMPROVISERS Thrive with connection to listeners

Delay preparation until the last minute. Want to be spontaneous and engaged. Are responsive & unafraid to make last minute changes.

But can lose focus and confuse during delivery

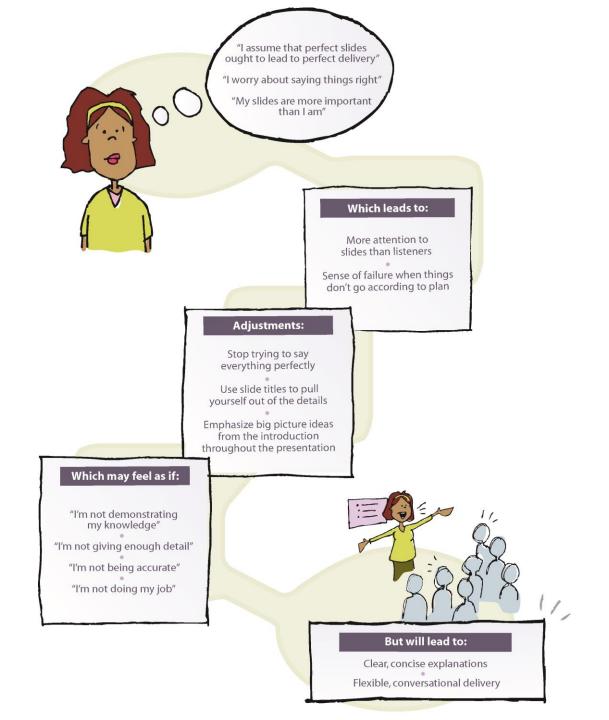
Writers

Adapting during preparation



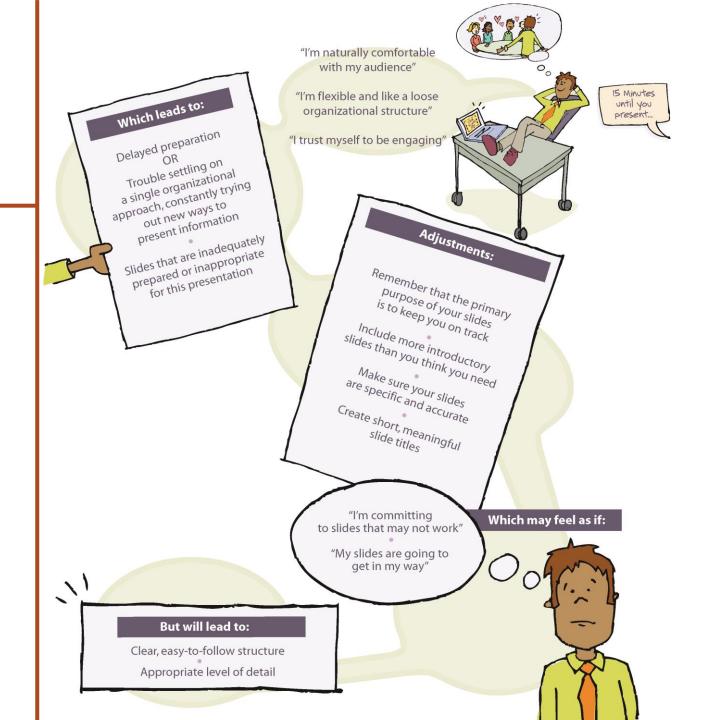
Writers

Adapting during the presentation



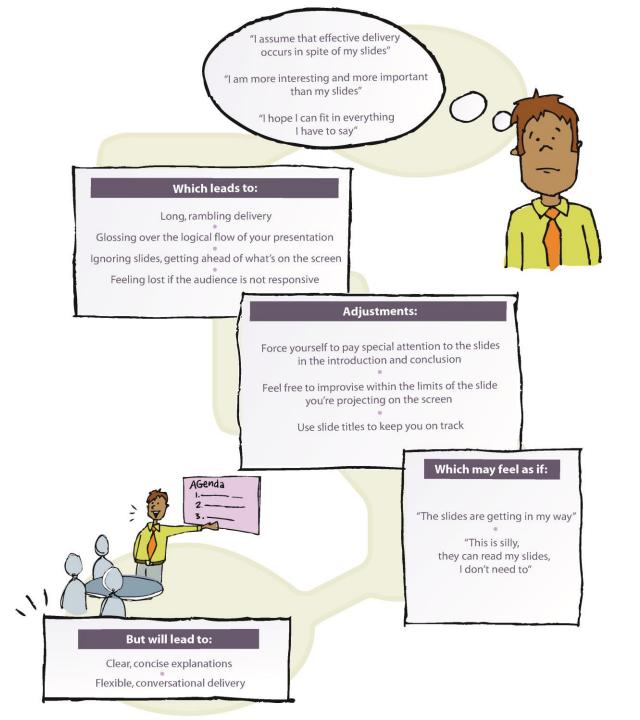
Improvisers

Adapting during preparation



Improvisers

Adapting during the presentation



About Turpin Communication

Turpin Communication is a presentation and facilitation training company based in Chicago. Turpin's Founder, Dale Ludwig, and Vice President, Greg Owen-Boger, are the co-authors of *The Orderly Conversation: Business Presentations Redefined*, which challenges conventional thinking about what it means to present and facilitate in today's business environment and replaces it with something better. The book has been called "ground-breaking" and "eminently practical" and is available at amazon.com. Dale and Greg also co-authored *Effective SMEs: A Trainer's Guide to Helping Subject Matter Experts Facilitate Learning*, which became available in 2017. They both hold the Bates ExPITM (Executive Presence Index) Coaching Certification.



Dale Ludwig is the Founder and President of Turpin. Over the past 25 years, he and his partners have developed methodologies that challenge much of the conventional wisdom in the field. Dale has a PhD in Communication from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a frequent blogger and makes guest appearances at Training Industry's website. In addition to the books mentioned above, he is the author of the white paper, "Getting Past 101: How to Bring Value and Relevance to Presentation Skills Training," which can be downloaded at www.turpincommunication.com

dale@turpincommunication.com



Greg Owen-Boger is the Vice President of Turpin. He was schooled in management and the performing arts and joined Turpin in 1995 as a workshop videographer. He quickly worked his way up. He now serves as account manager, trainer, and coach for a broad range of Turpin's clients. He is a frequent blogger and popular conference speaker. Greg served as the 2015 President of the Chicagoland Chapter of the Association for Talent Development and is among many thought leaders who contributed to *Master Presenter: Lessons from the World's Top Experts on Becoming a More Influential Speaker.*

greg@turpincommunication.com

