

# The Power of Words

Weekly Report 8/28/17 to 9/3/17

One of my personal goals in my entire life is to connect and inspire a crowd. I still have not accomplished this goal, but I believe that I am on the right path to get there, which brings me to this week when I was preparing for my introductory speech. The goal of this speech was simply to just talk about myself and why I was interested in my topic. Although I had been a part of the Lone-Star Storytelling festival when I was in middle school, my ability to talk about myself has been particularly difficult. So, I spent a lot of time preparing and researching on what I could do in order to create both an engaging and informative speech. Some of these resources have been online websites, such as [The Harvard Business Review](#), and the book [Talk Like TED](#). Although these books gave me a lot of advice regarding both the content and the delivery of the speech, the most important aspect of speeches they showed me was the sheer ability of words to shape and bring together the minds of hundreds. As for the present, this fact gave me a lot of confidence in myself that if people could persuade thousands of people to aid a certain cause, then surely I can survive an introductory speech in a classroom with twelve people.

I would say it went rather well, despite my anxiety and stress before my speech. I was passionate, enthusiastic, and according to my classmates, engaging. However, it was far from perfect. I was very nervous while presenting, so much in fact that my legs were wobbling around so much. Aside from my nerves, I also received a lot of helpful feedback regarding my pacing among others. So, in the upcoming months in the ISM program, I look forward to pushing myself in the areas I lack in because perfect practice results in perfection so that one day, I hope I will be able to unite a crowd amongst a common goal and to be the person I aspire to become.

Until next week,

Sahil Jain