

## **Spoken English**

# Vocabulary for motivational speeches

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Humans prevail through adversity, trials and tribulations. The one thing that keeps the momentum going is motivation. It empowers a person to take steps and work hard to fulfill his ambitions, desires and goals. Motivation can be derived from everything and anything. A simple conversation with somebody, while watching movies, videos, speeches, etc., will inspire and motivate him/her. You can share inspiring aspects of your life and struggles in the form of motivational speeches so that others can be inspired to achieve their dreams. Your English linguistic skills and strong command over vocabulary will impress the audience and inspire them to follow your footsteps.

Appropriate words and phrases can motivate the people into action and they will thank you for it. While preparing any speech, its structure and grammar should be given utmost importance. Any audience will not like grammatically wrong sentences in a speech as it disrupts their thought process. Strong vocabulary skills can aid in the proper sentence formation in order to prepare a great speech.



## **Vocabulary Tips For Motivational Speeches:**

### 1. Beginning

The audience can make out whether your speech would have any impact in the starting 60 seconds. The words you utter in the beginning of your motivational speech help you make a good first impression. This is important for captivating the attention of your audience. Avoid bland openings and start out with an interesting event or quote, whichever is your preference.

#### Avoid:

1. "Let me start out with my experience"

2. "I heard a funny story some time back".

Just start out with the story or experience. Announcing them reduces its effectiveness. The best way to start is with a humorous story or one-liner. The audience loves a humorous start, which will set the tone for the remainder of your speech. You can grab attention by the following ways:

1. Ask an intriguing question.

Example: How many of you here are completely happy with their life?

- 2. Narrate a success story.
- 3. Comment on an expert opinion and so on.



## 2. The body

The main body of your motivational speech should focus on the core topic of your speech. Break down your speech into points, arranged chronologically. This will help in choosing the appropriate vocabulary in framing the words. You can use prominent words like habit, heart, dynamic, winner, decision, action, successful etc. Your words should have a call to action for the audience, such as:

- 1. Work hard!
- 2. Think smart! Etc.

These words and phrases should get the minds of the audience thinking about the steps that they can take to improve their life. Every point in the main body should be highlighted with a personal story or an event, with which the audience can relate.

#### 3. Conclusion

End your speech with a great tagline.

## Example:

- 1. "90% of being smart is knowing what you're dumb at."
- 2."Doing it the hard way is always easier."

The tone of your voice should be high to make a strong impact. Sign off by thanking the audience and wishing the audience all the best.



The above tips will guide you to give a well-formatted motivational speech. However, it will require good command over English vocabulary, which you can improve with the help of online English speaking classes.

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## - By Monika Agarwal

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