

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: When the Mic Stares Back: Conquering the 7th Grade Podium Quiz

Beyond simple memorization—analyze audience demographics and structural transitions to turn pre-presentation jitters into classroom-shaking confidence.

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**1. Which of the following is the most effective way to use a 'hook' during the introduction of a persuasive presentation?**

**Answer:** C) Sharing a surprising statistic or a relevant personal anecdote.

A hook is designed to capture the audience's attention immediately. Surprising statistics or anecdotes create an emotional or intellectual connection that engages listeners more effectively than definitions or reading notes.

**2. When presenting to a group of experts on a topic, how should a speaker adjust their 'rhetorical situation' compared to presenting to beginners?**

**Answer:** B) Incorporate more complex data and specialized industry terminology.

Effective public speaking requires audience analysis. Experts expect a higher level of detail and specific terminology (jargon), whereas beginners require more scaffolding and simplified explanations.

**3. An ELA student is using transitional phrases between two main points in a speech. Which phrase best indicates a 'contrast' relationship?**

**Answer:** C) On the other hand, some argue...

Transitional phrases help the audience follow the logical flow of a presentation. 'On the other hand' signaling a shift to an opposing or different idea, which is essential for presenting balanced arguments.

**4. During a Q&A session after a presentation, a student is asked a question they do not know the answer to. Which response demonstrates the best professionalism?**

**Answer:** C) Admitting they don't know but offering to research it and follow up.

Honesty and the willingness to follow up preserve a speaker's credibility (ethos) and maintain a positive relationship with the audience, whereas making up information is unethical.

**5. What is the primary purpose of maintaining consistent eye contact with different sections of the room during a presentation?**

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**Answer:** B) To establish rapport and make the audience feel included in the conversation.

Eye contact is a non-verbal communication tool that builds trust and engagement. By looking at different sections of the room, the speaker ensures the entire audience feels acknowledged and connected to the message.