

# YVL Report:

## Public Speaking Session

*Facilitated by: Ghada Elouaer / We Love Sousse Association Tunisia.*

**Place:** Youth House Hay Erriadh

**Duration:** 1h 30 min

**Number of participants:** 36 youth

**Subject : Public Speaking as a Soft Skill**

Three axes:

- Meaning of public speaking : *Know Your Public*
- The skill of *storytelling*
- *Nonverbal communication : Voice + Body Language*

## YVL reference activities / techniques:

- Use of flipcharts instead of PowerPoint presentation :

An easier logistic use with clear mindset and direct transmission to the audience, I used three flip chart papers containing an axe of the session each.

- The understanding of a skill comes from practical examples :  
know your public activity

The idea behind the activity is to adapt your presentation and public speaking skills to *your public*. I asked two participants who came late to introduce themselves then pretend they are talking to 1/a class of 4 years old children and another 2/room full of 40 years old adults, afterwards they expressed their feelings when doing the exercise and we shared some tips on how to deal with each audience.

→ *This activity served as an Ice-breaker + integration activity for the late comers and a first activity to understand public speaking.*

- Group activity + inter-group competition :

*This activity is a mix of my own style and what I have learned in the YVL training.*

Group work: a fun and constructive type of activity: it helps people feel at ease and participate willingly , first the participants were divided into 4 groups labeled with colors , then I gave each team an envelope containing 4 random words and I asked them to create a story using these words. The idea behind the activity is to create links between the words making a story to present it later. Eventually, to measure the efficiency of the team's story telling as an integral skill in public speaking, they had to guess each other's words after their speeches → *Results varied from 2 words/4 and 4 words / 4.*

**Mission accomplished!**

- Role playing and voice-acting = Non Verbal Communication

We had many participants who were part of a theatre club, a fact that made this final activity even sweeter. Before this part, we had a short break to rest and recharge (*an important step in every workshop*).

Once back, we did a little equation:

**Public speaking = 55% body language + 38% voice + 7% content**

To demonstrate the reality of this equation we did three miming scenes: a group will mime a situation and the rest will guess the roles and context + my favorite activity of the workshop how to deliver an emotion from reading a random paragraph.

To do so, I chose a Tunisian-dialect poem and asked four volunteers to enact an emotion every time; *the results were extraordinary!* The participants outdid themselves; they would be reading a usually funny text while displaying an emotion of sadness or fear and it was so accurate, the audience were on the verge of tears or the edge of their seats. Not to mention, they managed to identify every emotion in record time.

 **My feelings and feedback during this session :**

The *feedback* from the participants was overwhelming; they absolutely loved the workshop and were full of smiles a gratitude. *The challenges* I faced were related to the **number of participants**, sometimes it was hard to control the session and ensure my role as facilitator especially during the group activity where they got too excited and too loud. Otherwise, it was a light, fun workshop and I was proud of assuring it using my newly acquired skills.