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Our student’s oral communication skills are one of the most important skills for success in today and tomorrow’s world of work order and it’s important to relentlessly practice and improve those skills. One of the primary ways to do this is by setting up regular “TED Talk” days. For instance part of class on Fridays might be devoted to watching one of the examples given in this index and having students complete a PVLEGS rubric and then discuss their take aways.

When having students report out their findings it’s important that someone in the class serve as a moderator. In a highly effective classroom students may serve as moderator with some guidance from the teacher. The moderator’s job is to:

- Manage the conversation (try to keep it on point)
- Ensure that agreed upon classroom norms are observed
- Summarize the student findings

Important questions for students to answer are:

What is the author trying to convey to the audience?

Is the author successful? Why/why not?

Which parts of the presentation or speech did you find particularly compelling?

Which parts of the presentation or speech did you think needed work?

Which methods or rhetorical devices would you maybe emulate in your own public speaking?

What did you think about the author’s topic? What did you come away with?

Throughout VWE II you will want to expose students to a wide variety of examples of public speaking and presentation. The videos in this index cover a gamut of topics and quality. Most of them present topics or ideas our students will likely be interested in. It’s just as important for students to see examples of bad public speaking to critique as it is to see examples of great public speaking to emulate. Mix it up!

The use of these TED Talks also helps students who are interested in completing the DIY TED Talk project as part of their final portfolio.

**Extension activity:** As a closing exercise have students write a reflection on the ideas presented in the TED talk and their classroom discussion.

**Accommodations:** For the videos that come directly from the [ted.com](http://ted.com) website most include links to transcripts in multiple languages. Providing your ELL students and students who may have concentration problems with a copy of the transcript may assist them in following along and being successful.

Title	Topic	Length	URL
<b>Why is X the Unknown?</b>	Why is 'x' the symbol for an unknown? In this short and funny talk, Terry Moore gives the surprising answer.	3:50	<a href="http://www.ted.com/talks/terry_moore_why_is_x_the_unknown">www.ted.com/talks/terry_moore_why_is_x_the_unknown</a>
<b>Forget Multitasking, Try Monotasking</b>	People don't just cook anymore -- they're cooking, texting, talking on the phone, watching YouTube and uploading photos of the awesome meal they just made. Designer Paolo Cardini questions the efficiency of our multitasking world and makes the case for -- gasp -- "monotasking."	2:46	<a href="http://www.ted.com/talks/paolo_cardini_forget_multitasking_try_monotasking">www.ted.com/talks/paolo_cardini_forget_multitasking_try_monotasking</a>

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Title	Topic	Length	URL
<b>8 Secrets of Success</b>	Why do people succeed? Is it because they're smart? Or are they just lucky? Neither. Analyst Richard St. John condenses years of interviews into an unmissable 3-minute slideshow on the real secrets of success.	3:27	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_st_john_s_8_secrets_of_success">https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_st_john_s_8_secrets_of_success</a>
<b>Try Something New for 30 Days</b>	Is there something you've always meant to do, wanted to do, but just ... haven't? Matt Cutts suggests: Try it for 30 days. This short, lighthearted talk offers a neat way to think about setting and achieving goals.	3:21	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/matt_cutts_try_something_new_for_30_days">https://www.ted.com/talks/matt_cutts_try_something_new_for_30_days</a>
<b>How to Tie Your Shoes</b>	Terry Moore found out he'd been tying his shoes the wrong way his whole life. In the spirit of TED, he takes the stage to share a better way.	2:52	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/terry_moore_how_to_tie_your_shoes">https://www.ted.com/talks/terry_moore_how_to_tie_your_shoes</a>
<b>10 Top Time Saving Tech Tips</b>	Tech columnist David Pogue shares 10 simple, clever tips for computer, web, smartphone and camera users. And yes, you may know a few of these already -- but there's probably at least one you don't.	5:41	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/david_pogue_10_top_time_saving_tech_tips">https://www.ted.com/talks/david_pogue_10_top_time_saving_tech_tips</a>
<b>Keep Your Goals to Yourself</b>	After hitting on a brilliant new life plan, our first instinct is to tell someone, but Derek Sivers says it's better to keep goals secret. He presents research stretching as far back as the 1920s to show why people who talk about their ambitions may be less likely to achieve them.	3:09	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/derek_sivers_keep_your_goals_to_yourself">https://www.ted.com/talks/derek_sivers_keep_your_goals_to_yourself</a>
<b>How to Succeed? Get More Sleep.</b>	In this short talk, Arianna Huffington shares a small idea that can awaken much bigger ones: the power of a good night's sleep. Instead of bragging about our sleep deficits, she urges us to shut our eyes and see the big picture: We can sleep our way to increased productivity and happiness -- and smarter decision-making.	4:04	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/arianna_huffington_how_to_succeed_get_more_sleep">https://www.ted.com/talks/arianna_huffington_how_to_succeed_get_more_sleep</a>

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Title	Topic	Length	URL
<b>Courage is Contagious</b>	When artist Damon Davis went to join the protests in Ferguson, Missouri, after police killed Michael Brown in 2014, he found not only anger but also a sense of love for self and community. His documentary "Whose Streets?" tells the story of the protests from the perspective of the activists who showed up to challenge those who use power to spread fear and hate.	5:26	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/damon_davis_what_i_saw_at_the_ferguson_protests">https://www.ted.com/talks/damon_davis_what_i_saw_at_the_ferguson_protests</a>
<b>Want to be more creative? Go for a walk.</b>	When trying to come up with a new idea, we all have times when we get stuck. But according to research by behavioral and learning scientist Marily Oppezzo, getting up and going for a walk might be all it takes to get your creative juices flowing. In this fun, fast talk, she explains how walking could help you get the most out of your next brainstorm.	5:26	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/marilyn_oppezzo_want_to_be_more_creative_go_for_a_walk">https://www.ted.com/talks/marilyn_oppezzo_want_to_be_more_creative_go_for_a_walk</a>
<b>The 3000-Year History of the Hoodie</b>	The hoodie is a lot more than just a comfy sweatshirt. Design curator Paola Antonelli takes us through its history.	3:33	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/paola_antonelli_the_3_000_year_history_of_the_hoodie">https://www.ted.com/talks/paola_antonelli_the_3_000_year_history_of_the_hoodie</a>
<b>How the Hyperlink Changed Everything</b>	The hyperlink is the LEGO block of the internet. Here's the bizarre history of how it came to be, as told by user experience master Margaret Gould Stewart.	3:34	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_gould_stewart_how_the_hyperlink_changed_everything">https://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_gould_stewart_how_the_hyperlink_changed_everything</a>
<b>What's Missing in the Global Debate on Refugees.</b>	In the ongoing debate over refugees, we hear from everyone -- from politicians who pledge border controls to citizens who fear they'll lose their jobs -- everyone, that is, except migrants themselves. Why are they coming? Journalist and TED Fellow Yasin Kakande explains what compelled him and many others to flee their homelands, urging a more open discussion and a new perspective. Because humanity's story, he reminds us, is a story of migration: "There are no restrictions that could ever be so rigorous to stop the wave of migration that has determined our human history," he says.	4:28	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/yasin_kakande_what_s_missing_in_the_global_debate_over_refugees">https://www.ted.com/talks/yasin_kakande_what_s_missing_in_the_global_debate_over_refugees</a>

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<b>How Pakistani Women are Taking the Internet Back</b>	TED Fellow Nighat Dad studies online harassment, especially as it relates to patriarchal cultures like the one in her small village in Pakistan. She tells the story of how she set up Pakistan's first cyber harassment helpline, offering support to women who face serious threats online. "Safe access to the internet is access to knowledge, and knowledge is freedom," she says. "When I fight for a woman's digital rights, I am fighting for equality."	5:19	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/nighat_dad_how_pakistani_women_are_taking_the_internet_back">https://www.ted.com/talks/nighat_dad_how_pakistani_women_are_taking_the_internet_back</a>
<b>The Simple Test Can Help Kids Hear Better</b>	Children who live in rural areas can have a hard time getting to the doctor -- much less to an audiologist's clinic for expensive, complex tests to check their hearing. The result for too many kids is hearing loss caused by ear infections and other curable or preventable problems. That's why ear surgeon and TED Fellow Susan Emmett is working with 15 communities in rural Alaska to create a simple, low-cost test that only requires a cell phone. Learn more about her work and how it could change the lives of children who don't have access to hearing care.	5:24	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_emmett_this_simple_test_can_help_kids_hear_better">https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_emmett_this_simple_test_can_help_kids_hear_better</a>
<b>How Sound Can Hack Your Memory While You Sleep</b>	Can you cram for a test while you sleep? Our intrepid neuroscientists attempt to enhance memory by running experiments on subjects while they sleep. You'll be surprised by the results.	4:08	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/diy_neuroscience_better_memory_while_you_sleep">https://www.ted.com/talks/diy_neuroscience_better_memory_while_you_sleep</a>
<b>The Real Reason Mosquitos Buzz</b>	What does the love song of a mosquito sound like? Find out as our intrepid neuroscientists explore the meaning of all that annoying buzzing in your ear.	4:47	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/diy_neuroscience_that_annoying_buzzing_may_be_a_love_song">https://www.ted.com/talks/diy_neuroscience_that_annoying_buzzing_may_be_a_love_song</a>

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<b>How Free Is Our Freedom of the Press</b>	In the US, the press has a right to publish secret information the public needs to know, protected by the First Amendment. Government surveillance has made it increasingly more dangerous for whistleblowers, the source of virtually every important story about national security since 9/11, to share information. In this concise, informative talk, Freedom of the Press Foundation co-founder and TED Fellow Trevor Timm traces the recent history of government action against individuals who expose crime and injustice and advocates for technology that can help them do it safely and anonymously	5:14	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/trevor_timm_how_free_is_our_freedom_of_the_press">https://www.ted.com/talks/trevor_timm_how_free_is_our_freedom_of_the_press</a>
<b>A Visual History of Social Dance in 25 Moves</b>	Why do we dance? African-American social dances started as a way for enslaved Africans to keep cultural traditions alive and retain a sense of inner freedom. They remain an affirmation of identity and independence. In this electric demonstration, packed with live performances, choreographer, educator and TED Fellow Camille A. Brown explores what happens when communities let loose and express themselves by dancing together.	4:37	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/camille_a_brown_a_visual_history_of_social_dance_in_25_moves">https://www.ted.com/talks/camille_a_brown_a_visual_history_of_social_dance_in_25_moves</a>
<b>A Visual History of Inequality in Industrial America</b>	For the last 12 years, LaToya Ruby Frazier has photographed friends, neighbors and family in Braddock, Pennsylvania. But though the steel town has lately been hailed as a posterchild of "rustbelt revitalization," Frazier's pictures tell a different story, of the real impact of inequality and environmental toxicity. In this short, powerful talk, the TED Fellow shares a deeply personal glimpse of an often-unseen world.	5:04	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/latoya_ruby_frazier_a_visual_history_of_inequality_in_industrial_america">https://www.ted.com/talks/latoya_ruby_frazier_a_visual_history_of_inequality_in_industrial_america</a>

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<b>For These Women, Reading is a Daring Act</b>	In some parts of the world, half of the women lack basic reading and writing skills. The reasons vary, but in many cases, literacy isn't valued by fathers, husbands, even mothers. Photographer and TED Fellow Laura Boushnak traveled to countries including Yemen, Egypt and Tunisia to highlight brave women -- schoolgirls, political activists, 60-year-old moms -- who are fighting the statistics.	5:07	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/laura_boushnak_for_these_women_reading_is_a_daring_act">https://www.ted.com/talks/laura_boushnak_for_these_women_reading_is_a_daring_act</a>
<b>For More Tolerance, We Need More... Tourism?</b>	Aziz Abu Sarah is a Palestinian activist with an unusual approach to peace-keeping: Be a tourist. The TED Fellow shows how simple interactions with people in different cultures can erode decades of hate. He starts with Palestinians visiting Israelis and moves beyond	4:38	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/aziz_abu_sarah_for_more_tolerance_we_need_more_to_tourism">https://www.ted.com/talks/aziz_abu_sarah_for_more_tolerance_we_need_more_to_tourism</a>
<b>Why You Should Care About Whale Poo</b>	Whales have a surprising and important job, says marine biologist Asha de Vos: these massive creatures are ecosystem engineers, keeping the oceans healthy and stable by ... well, by pooping, for a start. Learn from de Vos, a TED Fellow, about the undervalued work that whales do to help maintain the stability and health of our seas -- and our planet	5:46	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/asha_de_vos_why_you_should_care_about_whale_poo">https://www.ted.com/talks/asha_de_vos_why_you_should_care_about_whale_poo</a>
<b>Why Lunch Ladies are Heroes</b>	Children's book author Jarrett Krosoczka shares the origins of the Lunch Lady graphic novel series, in which undercover school heroes serve lunch...and justice! His new project, School Lunch Hero Day, reveals how cafeteria lunch staff provide more than food, and illustrates how powerful a thank you can be	5:21	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/jarrett_krosoczka_why_lunch_ladies_are_heroes">https://www.ted.com/talks/jarrett_krosoczka_why_lunch_ladies_are_heroes</a>
<b>The Danger of Silence</b>	"We spend so much time listening to the things people are saying that we rarely pay attention to the things they don't," says poet and teacher Clint Smith. A short, powerful piece from the heart, about finding the courage to speak up against ignorance and injustice	4:19	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/clint_smith_the_danger_of_silence">https://www.ted.com/talks/clint_smith_the_danger_of_silence</a>



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<b>3 Ways to Speak English</b>	Jamila Lyiscott is a “tri-tongued orator;” in her powerful spoken-word essay “Broken English,” she celebrates — and challenges — the three distinct flavors of English she speaks with her friends, in the classroom and with her parents. As she explores the complicated history and present-day identity that each language represents, she unpacks what it means to be “articulate.	4:26	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/jamila_lyiscott_3_ways_to_speak_english">https://www.ted.com/talks/jamila_lyiscott_3_ways_to_speak_english</a>
<b>The Shocking Move to Criminalize Nonviolent Protest</b>	In 2002, investigative journalist and TED Fellow Will Potter took a break from his regular beat, writing about shootings and murders for the Chicago Tribune. He went to help a local group campaigning against animal testing: "I thought it would be a safe way to do something positive," he says. Instead, he was arrested, and so began his ongoing journey into a world in which peaceful protest is branded as terrorism.	4:30	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/will_potter_the_shocking_move_to_criminalize_non_violent_protest">https://www.ted.com/talks/will_potter_the_shocking_move_to_criminalize_non_violent_protest</a>
<b>Want to Be an Activist? Start With Your Toys</b>	McKenna Pope's younger brother loved to cook, but he worried about using an Easy-Bake Oven -- because it was a toy for girls. So at age 13, Pope started an online petition for the American toy company Hasbro to change the pink-and-purple color scheme on the classic toy and incorporate boys into its TV marketing. In a heartening talk, Pope makes the case for gender-neutral toys and gives a rousing call to action to all kids who feel powerless	5:18	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/mckenna_pope_want_to_be_an_activist_start_with_your_toys">https://www.ted.com/talks/mckenna_pope_want_to_be_an_activist_start_with_your_toys</a>
<b>How the Hyperlink Changed Everything</b>	The hyperlink is the LEGO block of the internet. Here's the bizarre history of how it came to be, as told by user experience master Margaret Gould Stewart.	3:34	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_gould_stewart_how_the_hyperlink_changed_everything">https://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_gould_stewart_how_the_hyperlink_changed_everything</a>
<b>I Think We All Need a Pep Talk</b>	Kid President commands you to wake up, listen to the beating of your heart and create something that will make the world awesome.	3:27	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/kid_president_i_think_we_all_need_a_pep_talk">https://www.ted.com/talks/kid_president_i_think_we_all_need_a_pep_talk</a>

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<b>Your Online Life, Permanent as a Tattoo</b>	What if Andy Warhol had it wrong, and instead of being famous for 15 minutes, we're only anonymous for that long? In this short talk, Juan Enriquez looks at the surprisingly permanent effects of digital sharing on our personal privacy. He shares insight from the ancient Greeks to help us deal with our new "digital tattoos."	5:54	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/juan_enriquez_how_to_thin_k_about_digital_tattoos">https://www.ted.com/talks/juan_enriquez_how_to_thin_k_about_digital_tattoos</a>
<b>The Mathematics of History</b>	What can mathematics say about history? According to TED Fellow Jean-Baptiste Michel, quite a lot. From changes to language to the deadliness of wars, he shows how digitized history is just starting to reveal deep underlying patterns	4:19	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/jean_baptiste_michel_the_mathematics_of_history">https://www.ted.com/talks/jean_baptiste_michel_the_mathematics_of_history</a>
<b>Put the Financial Aid in the Bag</b>	At TEDYouth 2011, performance artist Carvens Lissaint shows how to use language, metaphor and imagery to express a powerful idea -- as in this spoken-word performance, a stirring plea to make college education more accessible.	5:05	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/put_the_financial_aid_in_the_bag">https://www.ted.com/talks/put_the_financial_aid_in_the_bag</a>
<b>Texting That Saves Lives</b>	When Nancy Lublin started texting teenagers to help with her social advocacy organization, what she found was shocking -- they started texting back about their own problems, from bullying to depression to abuse. So she's setting up a text-only crisis line, and the results might be even more important than she expected.	5:18	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy_lublin_texting_that_saves_lives">https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy_lublin_texting_that_saves_lives</a>
<b>Just How Small Is an Atom</b>	Just how small are atoms? Really, really, really small. This fast-paced animation from TED-Ed uses metaphors (imagine a blueberry the size of a football stadium!) to give a visceral sense of just how small atoms are. Lesson by Jon Bergmann, animation by Cognitive Media	5:28	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/just_how_small_is_an_atom">https://www.ted.com/talks/just_how_small_is_an_atom</a>



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<b>The Technology of Storytelling</b>	iPad storyteller Joe Sabia introduces us to Lothar Meggendorfer, who created a bold technology for storytelling: the pop-up book. Sabia shows how new technology has always helped us tell our own stories, from the walls of caves to his own onstage iPad	3:45	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/joe_sabia_the_technology_of_storytelling">https://www.ted.com/talks/joe_sabia_the_technology_of_storytelling</a>
<b>Less Stuff, More Happiness</b>	Writer and designer Graham Hill asks: Can having less stuff, in less room, lead to more happiness? He makes the case for taking up less space, and lays out three rules for editing your life	5:43	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/graham_hill_less_stuff_more_happiness">https://www.ted.com/talks/graham_hill_less_stuff_more_happiness</a>
<b>After Your Final Status Update</b>	Many of us have a social media presence -- a virtual personality made up of status updates, tweets and connections, stored in the cloud. Adam Ostrow asks a big question: What happens to that personality after you've died? Could it ... live on?	5:23	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_ostrow_after_your_final_status_update">https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_ostrow_after_your_final_status_update</a>
<b>What's Wrong with Our Food System</b>	At a TEDx event, 11-year-old Birke Baehr presents his take on a major source of our food -- far-away and less-than-picturesque industrial farms. Keeping farms out of sight promotes a rosy, unreal picture of big-box agriculture, he argues, as he outlines the case to green and localize food production.	5:08	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/birke_baehr_what_s_wrong_with_our_food_system">https://www.ted.com/talks/birke_baehr_what_s_wrong_with_our_food_system</a>
<b>How to Start a Movement</b>	With help from some surprising footage, Derek Sivers explains how movements really get started. (Hint: it takes two.)	3:03	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/derek_sivers_how_to_start_a_movement">https://www.ted.com/talks/derek_sivers_how_to_start_a_movement</a>
<b>What Adults Can Learn from Kids</b>	Child prodigy Adora Svitak says the world needs "childish" thinking: bold ideas, wild creativity and especially optimism. Kids' big dreams deserve high expectations, she says, starting with grownups' willingness to learn from children as much as to teach	8:05	<a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/adora_svitak?referrer=playlist-ted_under_20">https://www.ted.com/talks/adora_svitak?referrer=playlist-ted_under_20</a>