Group 4-03

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Brief Overview/ abstract

Our project is the creation of a website that aims to help students aged 11 to 15 years old improve their public speaking skills and overcome their fear of public speaking(glossophobia). We compiled many useful tips and pointers, and created videos to put them in, and we also put in some practice topics along with a voice recording system we into our website.

Introduction

We wanted to make videos to help people with public speaking because according to a research done by PYCHOM, glossophobia (fear of public speaking) affects up to 75% of people. We have also done a survey among primary 5 students to secondary 3 students , and around 70% of them did not like public speaking ,and a few common reasons why they did not like public speaking were because they were afraid that they will make mistakes, people might criticise them, or just because they just hate it when many people are staring at them. Since many people hate or are scared to speak in public, we decided to create videos to help them improve their skills and take away their fear. Our target audience is students aged between 11 to 15 years old, as they have many assignments or projects which require them to speak in public, such as a presentation in front of their class, or being the MC of an assembly.However, these students may have limited prior experience, hence, we feel that they are the group of people that needs our public speaking website the most.

We have reviewed many public speaking websites such as this

1. Nervousness Is Normal. Practice and Prepare!

All people feel some physiological reactions like pounding hearts and trembling hands. Do not associate these feelings with the sense that you will perform poorly or make a fool of yourself. Some nerves are good. The adrenaline rush that makes you sweat also makes you more alert and ready to give your best performance.

The best way to overcome anxiety is to prepare, prepare, and prepare some more. Take the time to go over your notes several times. Once you have become comfortable with the material, practice—a lot. Videotape yourself, or get a friend to critique your performance.

2. Know Your Audience. Your Speech Is About Them, Not You.

Before you begin to craft your message, consider who the message is intended for. Learn as much about your listeners as you can. This will help you determine your choice of words, level of information, organization pattern, and motivational statement.

Review

Many of the websites available now online are very wordy, and just paragraph after paragraph of words. Not only are these kind of websites boring, they also don't really help with their attempted purpose. A resource like this does not help students with public speaking as most students do not like to read lengthy write ups about a topic. So after our needs analysis, and research, we found that students our age prefer videos to text. This also showed why current websites are not as useful, as students are less likely to want to read it. Also, most websites did not offer any activities for the user to try, and/or practice what they have learnt from the advice provided.

Methodology

Methodology.Firstly, we conducted a needs analysis, in the form of a survey,which had 68 respondents.We found out that many students around our age group (11-14) dislike and fear public speaking, and would like to have a website to help them with their public speaking. We used some suggestions from the people who took the survey like adding some passages for them to practice, we crafted our website, and conducted research on some of the more relevant topics.Once our research was done, we started to work on our videos, using a website called powtoon to create our videos. The videos we worked on are animations that give helpful tips to the viewer.When we finished our website,we conducted a pilot test which have 31 respondents.The results from the pilot test were positive, with most of them stating that our website would help them, and they would use it more if they had the chance to. One suggestion was to make the website special, was to add a voice record function for people to use and practise their speeches.

Outcome

The final outcome of this project is a complete website which have videos on how to improve different aspects of public speaking. We have tips on how to practise before your speech, body language, voice, organisation, knowing your audience, common mistakes and how to avoid them. After students have watched our videos, we have provided them with some practices such as public speaking topics to practise on, tongue twisters, as well as a voice recording system we used in our website. future work can be done to publicise our website even more, so that it can help more students.However, a website can only do so much, so, we hope that there will be other ways for our goal to be better achieved. One such possible way is to hold perhaps a sabbatical as suggested to us. This will allow more people to know about this package.

<u>Conclusion</u>

From our first project work experience, we faced many challenges but also acquired many valuable life skills. Sometimes, we got into conflicts, but we managed to resolve them in a gentlemanly manner. We learnt to manage our time well since we had to juggle between tests, CCA and the project.We also learnt how to be flexible, because one of our project work groupmate was having competitions during a certain period of time, and did not have enough time to do project work. We learnt how to be understanding and help him complete what he was supposed to do, but assigned him more work the next time. Finally, and most importantly, we learnt to work as a team. We did not know each other well during the start of the year, but that did not stop us from working together and cooperating with each other. We feel that project work was an excellent opportunity for us to learn skills that will help us in the future. One of these such skills is how to use google websites.This is extremely essential to the project as many of the functions that we used were functions we previously had no idea about. We also learnt how to create videos and animations through Powertoon. All in all, we felt that this was a fresh experience from what most of us are usually used to.

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