**GRADUATION PROJECT INTRODUCTION PRACTICE**

The Introduction

 First impressions are always the strongest. However, you can redeem yourself even if you lose your nerves in the beginning of your presentation and finish strong. Here’s an example of how you can do this. After watching the video clips, answer the questions below. Be prepared to discuss.

**Clip # 1**

1. How did the speaker begin his/her presentation?
2. What was appealing about his/her approach?
3. How did he/she continue to keep your attention?
4. What could the speaker have done to be more engaging? Less distracting?

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**Clip # 2**

1. How did the speaker begin his/her presentation?
2. What was appealing about his/her approach?
3. How did he/she continue to keep your attention?
4. What could the speaker have done to be more engaging? Less distracting?

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**Here’s how you should proceed when making your initial impression on your judges:**

1. When you walk into the room, ***smile***. Say hello to your judges.
2. When you get closer to them shake their hands and tell them your name.
3. Set up (quickly)
4. Take a deep breath and begin.

**Your Introduction**

1. Introduce yourself (Yes, again, but this time more thoroughly)
2. Hook (Grab your audience’s attention and get their emotions going!)
3. Define/Explain your topic (as if they have never heard of child abuse, concussions, etc).
4. Thesis (from your paper)
5. Statement of Relevance (Why does your topic matter?)

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**Practice Time!**

*You are to create your introductory statement of your presentation. Make sure that it includes all of the above components except # 4 (for right now). When you have finished, we will practice your first impressions with your class. You have 30 minutes to make a great first impression***.**