How to prepare a good presentation for thesis defence?

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What is important?

- Purpose of the presentation
- Audience. To whom?
- How much information to deliver?
- Structure of the presentation
- Visualization - audience not only hear
- Practise
Will the audience understand?

Summarize the essence of the message to yourself

"Bullseye dart" by Santeri Viinämäki is licensed under CC BY 4.0

Make it understandable to others, prove and justify it
What should be mentioned and discussed?

Start talking only after the 1st slide will appear and then introduce yourself!

Present:
- topic of your thesis
- research subject
- goal and objectives
- methodology
- generalised research results
- conclusions and recommendations
What should be mentioned and discussed?

- **Relevance** (why it is important)
- **Novelty** (the problem analysed in the thesis must be new and one has to specify to what extent the problem has already been analysed)
- **Originality** (thesis is an expression of student’s intellectual, creative and scientific activity)
- **Significance** (how it can be used in theory/practise)
- **Information sources** (overview of the research on the selected topic, subscribed international databases, legal documents, case law, statistical data, well known authors, etc.)

Incorporate those things into your speech
Requirements to text

Usually:

- **Font:** TIMES NEW ROMAN, ARIAL, TAHOMA, HELVETICA
- **Font color:** BLACK
- **Background:** WHITE (light)
- **Font size:** the most suitable size is 32-48
- **Headings** should be bold or bigger than text
Don’t force the auditorium to try hard to read!

Can you easily read this sentence?

Avoid the fancy font styles.

Font size shouldn’t be 12.
Simplicity

- Essential statements on slide
- Audience has to understand in 5 seconds
- Present those statements
- $\leq 6$ lines of text per slide
- $\leq 7$ words in one line
- Not recommended to show several slides with text in succession
Clarity

- 1 subject on 1 slide
- Importance of headings
- Good illumination and visibility
- Attractive font
- Nice combination of font, size and colour
- Use **Bold** to highlight the text
- Not recommended to use *Italic*
Consistency

- One visual style - the same:
  - template
  - font and size in particular sections
  - combination of colours
  - highlighting
  - transition of slides
  - etc.

- Logical and consistent flow of information
Other advices

○ Main information in the 1st slide
○ Don’t read – COMMENT!
○ NO to grammar mistakes!
○ Don’t overdo with a number of slides
○ Time is important
○ Be polite and calm
Auditorium remembers

10%  WHAT THEY READ

20%  WHAT THEY HEAR

30%  WHAT THEY SEE

70%  WHAT THEY HEAR AND SEE
Visualization

✓ Diagrams and charts
✓ Schemes
✓ Tables
✓ Pictures and images
✓ Video/audio
✓ Mind maps and concept maps

✧ Use the most suitable ones
✧ Don’t overload
Visualization: diagrams

Do you understand something?

Not good
Visualization: diagrams

Good
Vilnius county ethnic consist 2011

- Lithuanians: 59.4%
- Polish: 23.0%
- Russians: 10.3%
- Other: 7.3%

Not good
Vilnius county ethnic consist 2011

- Lithuanians: 59.4%
- Polish: 23.0%
- Russians: 10.3%
- Other: 7.3%
Visualization: diagrams

Good

Gold medals (London Olympic games)

Not good

Gold medals (London Olympic games)
Visualization: CC Licensing

If you are using pictures, images, video/audio recordings in your presentation!

Useful to know:

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creative_Commons
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creative_Commons_license
Visualization: mind and concept maps

"Complex adaptive system" by Acadac [CC BY-SA 3.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/deed.en)], via Wikimedia Commons
Software for creation of presentations

- Microsoft Powerpoint
- Prezi
- Google Slides
- iWork: Keynote (for iPad)

etc.: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Presentation_software

University computers are supported with MS Powerpoint
Technical equipment

- Computer, notebook or tablet
- Projector
- Interactive board
- Pen for interactive board
- Remote control
- Laser
- Sound system

Check the presentation location in advance
Advices to a speaker

- Practice
- Clothing
- Posture
- Voice
- Oratory
- Contact with audience
- Specific terminology
- Time management:
  a) duration
  b) perception of presented information
You will become a speaker by training, not by being born.

Practise!
Good practise
Content sharing websites

*SlideShare*
*AuthorSTREAM*
*SlideServe*

Videos sharing websites (lectures, presentations):
*Youtube*
*Vimeo*

**Ted**: ideas worth spreading:
- regularity, body talk, communication with auditorium
- example: *Thumb wrestling*
Questions

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