

In short

IN THIS LESSON, YOU:

- give a short presentation
- discuss your own experience of presentations
- listen to a presentation by a Finnish economics student
- get better at structuring and signposting presentations

LISTENING

1 Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- Who might give a presentation in these places and situations? What kinds of subjects might the presentations be about?
 - a bank
 - a primary school
 - a university
 - a medical conference
 - a company sales conference
 - a film production company
- Have you ever given a presentation in English – or in your own language? Where? What was it about? How long was it? How did it go?
- What ways can you think of to generate interest in a topic at the start of a talk?
- What other advice would you give about giving a good presentation?

2 Listen and complete the phrases from a presentation using three or four words in each gap. Then compare your ideas with a partner.

- For _____, don't know me already, I'm Pihla.
- _____ each country should decide what it wants.
- So _____ the results ...
- Then I'll _____ that ...
- So _____ who has heard of PISA.
- The _____ the average scores ...
- _____, China is over 60 points ahead.
- Today, I'm _____ PISA.

3 Do the phrases in Exercise 2 come from the introduction, main part or conclusion of the presentation? What is the purpose of each phrase?

Number 1 is from the introduction. The purpose of the phrase is to introduce yourself.

4 Listen to the introduction of a presentation given by a Finnish student who is studying Economics in a foreign university. Answer the questions.

- What is the presentation about?
- What exactly is Pihla going to talk about in the rest of the presentation?

5 Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- Do you know anything about PISA?
- Look at the table. What kind of things do you think Pihla might talk about?
- Why do you think that Pihla doesn't believe PISA is very helpful?

Rank	Country	Average score of maths, science and reading
1	China	578.7
5	Estonia	525.3
7	South Korea	519.7
10	Finland	516.3
15	New Zealand	502.7
20	Belgium	500
31	Iceland	481.3
36	Belarus	472.3
43	Greece	453.3
47	UAE	433.7
52	Uruguay	423.7
59	Qatar	413.3

6 Listen to the rest of the presentation and take notes on the key points. Then work in pairs. How would you summarize the talk for students who missed today's class?

7 Are the sentences true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS), according to Pihla? Listen again to check.

- There are the same number of students taking the test in all 79 countries.
- The schools taking part are normally from a variety of places within each country.
- The results for Finland have plunged since 2000.
- There's not a huge difference between the results for Finland and Iceland.
- Pihla doesn't want to get a higher PISA score if it means a longer school day.
- Qatar spends more on education than any other country.

8 Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- Do you know how your country ranks in PISA?
- How far do you agree with Pihla's conclusions in the presentation? Explain why.
- What do you think education at school is for? What about at university?
- What factors could affect educational performance?

VOCABULARY Introducing a presentation

9 Complete the sentences with the verbs in the boxes. Then match the sentences from parts 1, 2 and 3 to make the introductions to four different presentations.

1 What I'm going to try and do today is ...

summarize take talk tell

- a _____ **a look at** McDonald's® recent performance.
 b _____ **you a bit about** the history of my hometown, Mercedes.
 c _____ **to you about** the incredible economic growth South Korea has experienced over the last 25 years.
 d _____ **the main** achievements of the remarkable Estonian composer Arvo Pärt.

2 I'd like to begin by ...

commenting giving outlining reviewing

- e _____ **what the literature has to say about** the social factors that fed into this boom.
 f _____ **you an overview of** the key moments in its development.
 g **briefly** _____ **the way** he combines classical and religious music in his work.
 h _____ **on** their sales figures for the last five years.

3 I'll then move on to ...

consider focus make highlight

- i _____ **why** this style developed when it did – both in Europe and the US.
 j _____ **some of the** social problems that have accompanied it.

k _____ **some recommendations about** how the company could improve its performance in the years to come.

l _____ **on** why these developments occurred and what impact they had.

SPEAKING TASK

10 **M** You are going to give a five-minute presentation to teenagers visiting your area on a cultural exchange. Do some research (in your first language or English). Choose from these topics.

- the history of your town or city
- the state of the economy in your town / country / region
- the achievements of someone important from your town / country / region

11 Decide how you want to structure your talk and what language from Exercises 2 and 9 you want to use.

12 Work in small groups. Take turns to give your presentations.

MY OUTCOMES

Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What discussions, roleplays and presentations did you take part in? Which did you enjoy the most?
- 2 What useful language have you learned to talk about the topics in this unit?
- 3 What was the most challenging thing about the language you used in this unit? Why?
- 4 What can you do online or in daily life to revise or practise language from this unit?

