

## How to deliver good presentations in a foreign language

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Presenting in a foreign language, for example at international scientific meetings such as JpGU, can be an intimidating challenge. This challenge includes not only communicating one's own ideas clearly, but also understanding and responding to critical questions, typically within only a few minutes. We researchers can all benefit from continually developing the skills to present in an engaging way that makes a good impression on the audience. To this end, I will share my thoughts based on my experiences as a native English speaker who has worked as a researcher in Japan for 20 years. I have presented results in Japanese at many seminars, conferences, hearings at funding agencies, and job interviews. Of course, no native Japanese would ever mistake me for a native speaker, as will be obvious to all attendees! But still, I have found ways to communicate effectively and have even become nearly as comfortable presenting in Japanese as in my native English. My techniques include: 1) use simple wording, clear statements, and slides that are not too complicated, 2) practice each presentation at least three times, cut out the unnecessary, and get comfortable with the flow, and 3) engage actively with questioners and ask them to clarify their questions if necessary. Accept the challenge, build up your presentation skills, and expand the possibilities for your own career!

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