

## VOICE MODULATION

### Modulation

Modulation is when you control or adjust something, like when you lower your voice to a loud whisper in order to make what you're saying more dramatic and mysterious.

The noun *modulation* has several meanings, including a change of key in music or of the sound of a person's voice. It almost always involves some kind of deliberate modification or slight change, like an actor adjusting his pitch or volume depending on the role he's playing or the mood of the scene. The Latin root, *modulationem*, has a musical meaning: "rhythm, singing, and playing, or melody."

Voice is GOD's gift and no one is born voice rich, it needs to be trained enough to modulate, vary, and able to perform professionally for a required time. Here I have few TIPS for you to regulate your throat to produce variation and modulation in your voice as and when necessary. Basically, **Voice Modulation** is a change in stress, pitch, loudness, or tone of the voice and an inflection of the voice, which gives your voice mood meaning and sounds attractive.

Here are few components of voice modulation.

**Pace or Speech speed:** It must always be at a speed that the listener can understand. The medium speed works better. But sometimes you have to change the pace from slow to fast as required according to the situation, but yet the speed should be within your comfort zone. Put the voice at that speed where the listener can understand you properly.

**Pitch or Depth of voice:** You can simply start practicing increasing the depth of your voice from your oral track to vocal cord to your chest till your abdomen. The deeper you go, the more depth you get. Keep it at a level that is comfortable for you and don't strain your vocal cords.

More depth you have more commanding and powerful your sound. Being loud helps you to do it.

**Pause:** Pauses should be given at required intervals like where there is punctuation like , . : ; " ? - ! etc and conjunctions like "and" "or" "but" "yet" "either" "neither" "so" etc. It is given to let the listener absorb your information. It is given for emphasis and dramatic effect. You sound fluent and natural.

**Power:** In order to create power in your voice, you should not speak from your mouth but from inside from the abdomen, make it commanding by generating intensity in your voice. The more depth you have more the powerful you can sound.

**Volume:** Try and match your listener's speech volume, unless they are shouting. Try dropping your volume so that they have to drop their volume to hear you. Maintain your volume according to the listener, decrease or increase (do not shout to increase it be loud). Increasing your volume simply means being loud and louder. The louder you are, more clear and commanding you sound.

**Emphasis:** Put emphasis by putting some pressure or focus on the keywords or syllables in order to provide contrast to your words bring out their desired meaning. It helps your voice sound clear and attractive.

**Inflection:** Inflection means ups and downs of words. In combination inflection links meaning and feeling with your words.

It is an adjustment of the pitch or tone of voice to become enough to be clearly heard and understood by folks....

### **Tips on Voice Modulation When Doing Public Speaking**

Public speaking is one of the most difficult, challenging and intimidating things to do. Standing in front of a group of people and speaking to them about your ideas, beliefs or plans can be one of the most exciting and scary things you have ever done in your life. Knowing some basics about public speaking can help you do a better job at getting your message across. Voice modulation and control is one of the key tools you can use to make your speech a success.

Voice Modulation is an important aspect of Effective Public Speaking. **Without Voice Modulation, the speech would sound flat and will not be able to catch audience attention.** The time span for the attention of the audience is very short so the speaker has to draw the interest of audience so that they listen to him carefully. Voice modulation is necessary to engage your listeners. This is what you should do:

#### **Lower your voice**

Lower the pitch of your voice slightly when speaking in public. Shrill voices can be annoying, cause microphone feedback and make your words unintelligible. Don't lower your voice dramatically, just concentrate on keeping it even and lower--even in moments of passionate



speaking. Concentrate on removing any garbage words such as "uh" or "um." These are speech killers.

### Slow down

One of the biggest mistakes in public speaking is speaking too quickly. A normal conversation is too fast a pace for a public speech. **Slow down, speak clearly and concisely**, and allow moments of pause in important phrases to allow the listener to digest what was just said. Use moments of pause and also use your voice level to indicate importance. When you are showing passion, get quieter before delivering the sentence of importance. Then, when the key sentence is spoken, raise your voice level and say the sentence emphatically and clearly. Do not shout, but make a big difference in your voice level.

### Watch your "s" sounds

"S" and "p" can be microphone killers. The sibilant sound of the "s" can wipe out what was just said and what is being said next. The same goes for the explosive "p" sound. Some speech coaches tell you to use a soft "th" sound for the "s" and to move the mike away from the mouth when using the "p" sound. Whatever works best for you is fine; just keep these in mind when speaking.

### Importance of Pitch for Voice Modulation

- 1) Do not speak in a high pitch. It sounds like noise.
- 2) Do not speak in a very low pitch. It's not audible.
- 3) Speak in pitch which is comfortable to you and your audience. The natural pitch of conversation is good for delivering speeches.
- 4) Do not speak in a monotonous voice. Your voice should rise and fall.
- 5) Modulate your pitch for emphasizing a particular idea.

### Tone

The tone of voice conveys about the situation whether a serious or joyous situation.

Tone helps in visualising the words of the speaker. It's very much necessary to speak in the right tone and stress words which carry importance. You need to take care as to when you should change the pitch to stress a word.

### Pause

Pause helps in understanding the meaning of the spoken words. Pause helps in enhancing the meaning of words and it also provides a breathing opportunity.

How to use the pause effectively –

- 1) After you are introduced
- 2) When you want to emphasise certain ideas

- 3) Pause after questions
- 4) Use the pause as a transitional device – When moving from one point to another
- 5) Pause to get the best effect from humor – pausing before and after the humor prepares the audience to understand and react to the message.
- 6) Pause after the end of the speech. It will give time to the audience to react.
- 7) Pause to add your overall effectiveness as a speaker.

### Silence

You keep silence so that the audience absorbs what you have said.

### SYLLABLES

A syllable is a word, or part of a word, which contains a single vowel sound. It is a single unit of speech. Each word contains one syllable, or more.

#### 1. Syllable

Here are examples of words with a single syllable:

pen, man, pig, cup, hat

In English, a vowel sound can be made of more than one vowel letter. So the following words have a single syllable as well:

feet, moon, cake, have, break, bought

All of these words contain only one vowel sound, and therefore a single syllable.

#### 2. Syllables

A word can have more than one syllable. The following words are examples of words with two syllables. Here are examples of words with 2 syllables. The different syllables are shown on the right, and they are separated with a space.

garden: gar den

hotel: ho tel

consist: con sist

object: ob ject

focus: fo cus

#### 3. Syllables

Examples of words with three syllables:

September: sep tem ber

department: de part ment

telephone: te le phone