

## Using Intros

Here are a few prompts to get you thinking about writing and speaking good intros.

1. Promise something. Offer the listeners something they want. Promise to teach something new, entertain, or offer some helpful facts. For instance, "In less than five minutes, I can teach you how to tie your shoes so that they never come untied again."

Here are some examples from Chad Elliot's Improv Manifesto:

- "I'm learned a terrible secret..."
- "I've just discovered a mystery..."
- "Something horrible is about to happen..."
- "I've got an amazing idea..."
- "I've done something disgusting..."
- "I know an embarrassing secret from your past..."
- "We have to stop a disaster from happening..."
- "I have a wonderful surprise for you..."
- "I've done something I regret..."

With these in mind, think of your own ways to offer something that will capture the listener's interest.

2. Connect your intro directly to your topic. If you use a joke, make sure theme of the joke relates to the topic.

3. Find a great quote that connects your topic to the listener.

4. Look over all the information you have about your topic, ask what is the single fact or idea that might catch people's attention.

5. Try writing a letter to the audience. Write a letter to someone you know about this topic. How would start the letter? What would you focus on?

6. Is there a story you can tell that relates to this topic?