



The Seven Voices of Extemp

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The 7 Emotions of Extemp

There's about 5-7 emotions that encompass the human voice. These can be crucial in extemp to connect with your judge.

They are:

1. Upset
2. Sadness
3. Informative
4. Hopeful
5. Excited
6. Persuasive/Smart
7. Ridicule

Voice #1: Upset

Method #1

Raising your voice

Method #1

Slowing your voice

Method #3

**Slanting eyebrows
towards the center**

- NOT anger, but showing passion
- Can be used when expressing disappointment, typically at inaction of the government or an individual's behavior
- "I am DISAPPOINTED in what has happened"

Voice #2: Sadness

Impact #1

Warfare

Impact #2

Death

Impact #3

Poverty

- Similar to being upset, but a lot more staggered
- “I can’t believe that this has been allowed to happen.”

Voice #3: Informative

Method #1

Monotone

Method #2

Easy inflection pattern

Method #3

Methodical speed

- Most useful for providing background information
- Can be in your introduction or prior to the “meat” of a point

Voice #4: Hopeful

Method #1

**Slight smile, open
eyes/face**

Method #2

**Faster speed/higher
pitch**

Method #3

Stand up straight

- Can be refreshing
- A lot of speeches will take the gloomy, pessimistic route
- Great way to end a point or your whole speech
- “If this happens, lives could be saved.”

Voice #5: Excited

Method #1

Higher pitch

Method #2

Open smile

Method #3

Raised voice

- More about the current situation, rather than the future
- “This event is REVOLUTIONIZING what we do.”

Voice #6: Persuasive/Smart

Method #1

Narrowed eyes

Method #2

Focused

Method #3

Eye contact

- Speak as if you're a politician or debater defending their position
- Remember that extemp is a persuasive event at heart
- "I just told you how this is important and I know why this is important"

Voice #7: Ridicule

Method #1

Pursed smile

Method #2

**Raised eyebrows + open
eyes**

Method #3

**Slowed down for
emphasis**

- Amazing for AGDs or any time a politician says something dumb
- “I can’t believe this happened. Why would anyone want this?”
- “I can’t believe they said this. Isn’t that crazy?”

Practice Time!

Use these methods to improve:

Drill 1 - The 7 Voices Outline

1. Write your flow for a practice speech or at a tournament
2. Next to each sub-point, write three separate tones (and ideally for the on-top)
Example: Background is informative, Subpoint B is hopeful and Subpoint C is persuasive

Drill 2 - The 7 Voices of The Onion

1. Find any "The Onion" Article
2. Read three paragraphs, each with a separate tone/emotion
3. Ask somebody to guess the emotion