



### Opening Options...The Technique

Story or anecdote

Research some local current event

Make a prediction

Extended pause

Interesting or startling statistic

Powerful quote

Rhetorical question

Refer to previous speaker

Challenge

Startling statement

Tie into the meeting theme

Bold claim or promise

Go for their trophy room / awards

Recommendation 1<sup>st</sup> (business presentation)

Significance of your subject

Offer a needed explanation

Mention what's on the audiences mind

Read from a letter, corporate report or newsletter

Imagine for a moment...transport your audience

Definition from dictionary

Compliment the audience

Refer to a comment from earlier in the program

Prop or visual aid

### Opening Options...The Words

I wish you could have been there...

I'll never forget the 1<sup>st</sup> / last time...

It was one of the most exciting days of my life...

It was the scariest moment of my life...

What would the World be like if...

If you were asked...

Who would've thought that...

Remember the good old days when...

It was just a typical day and then...

It never ceases to amaze me...

Would it interest/amaze/shock you to know...

You have an awesome responsibility...

Just like you, I was brought up to believe...

Let's start with a history lesson/love story...

The year was...

You know what it's like when...

To put this report into perspective...

Thank you for the opportunity / invitation to discuss...

How often / how many of you...have experienced...

Who among us hasn't / has...