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Practically Speaking
Synopsis

Fresh and Practical Advice You Will Need
Sound Scholarship You Can Trust
All at a Price You Won’t Believe

Practically Speaking is a brief text that covers the essentials of public speaking without sacrificing student interest or sound scholarship. Using a conversational and edgy style, author Dan Rothwell gives practical advice and a fresh perspective on classic and contemporary theories and research. This essential guide provides students with a solid foundation in public speaking and then teaches them how to add their own voices to the conversation.

Features
- Each chapter follows the rules of good organizational logic presented in Chapter 7
- Unique and humorous examples, stories, quotations, photos, and cartoons; intense, dramatic, and poignant illustrations; vivid language and metaphors; and startling statistics and historical facts
- Numerous pop-culture references and newsworthy events
- More than 500 sources, both classic and contemporary
- The "Communication Competence Model", carefully developed in Chapter 1, serves as the theoretical basis for all advice offered
- A unique Chapter (9), "Skepticism: Becoming Critical Thinking Speakers and Listeners"
- A separate chapter on speech anxiety
- A full chapter on gaining and maintaining attention
- Two full chapters on persuasive speaking that provide theoretical explanations for general and specific persuasive strategies

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am taking a public speaking course that is using this textbook. As a quick read, this textbook would probably be excellent. As the core material for a college-level class, however, it falls flat. It is
conversational, yet poorly organized. Key points, vocabulary, terms, and solutions are hidden within paragraphs, not outlined or highlighted well. The chapter on outlining is located 7 chapters into the book. And the worst part are the canned quizzes and tests. They are filled with poorly-written questions such as True-False questions that contain some accurate facts provided in the text but not completely accurate, so they are false. In other words, instead of being a tool to aid in learning the material, the quizzes and tests provide a source of stress and frustration for students. Oh, and if the professor is using the included PowerPoint presentation but doesn't know the material well, it is useless and confusing.

Excellent book! really helped me with my public speaking class in college! Fun dialogue with very useful information. Filled with a lot of great ideas and advice, especially on combating speech anxiety. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in improving your public speaking skills!

I am having to re-do the powerpoints. Who ever put it together did it mindlessly. His book is written along the same pathway as "In Mixed Company". I have to use it for Group Communication and I find his concepts are not organized and well written out. NOW I have to use this book for Public Speaking and I am baffled in how to follow his process. The topic ideas are jumbeld and again I am having to somehow manage my way through this mess. I am not sure why our organization felt this book was even comprable to "Mastering Public Speaking" By George Grice, and John Skinner. I know books can be expensive but to subject students to poorly written work just to save a buck makes not sense to me.

This was a great book that helped me with my class and was very detailed about breaking each section down with great descriptions. I would recommend this book if you are just new at delivering speeches and want to get the whole concept from beginning to end.

Overall, the book was fine. The language was too simplistic and specific ways to improve upon specific speaking traits (ex: remembering what to say next) were not noted.

very good book. i needed it for college speech class. however, i would recommend this book to even those not attending a college speech course.

first time to rent a book and a bit nervous. I was sent a reminded to return and a address pd slip to
sent back.

This book was easy to follow. The chapters were very short, which made preparing for a test easy.