

Public Speaking for Rebbeim – Rabbi Henoah Plotnik

Presentation for Walder Education/Associated Talmud Torahs

October 25, 2021

1) Perspective

- A. Rashi in Maseches Sotah
- B. Lessons from Louisville Slugger Museum
- C. Know who you are standing in front of

2) Preparation

- A. Coach Bobby Knight
- B. Be clear on the language
- C. Be the crowd
- D. Sensitivity to every individual present
- E. Never Misquote Pesukim or Chazal
- F. Have citations clearly available

3) The speech I

- A. Do they know the message?
- B. Give it eternity
- C. One powerful line

4) Being effective

- A. Making it personal
- B. Name and place dropping – responsibly
- C. Don't fake it – they can tell

5) Speech starts early

- A. Image and posture, even before
- B. West Bloomfield – Tigers
- C. Wait for order
- D. Clothes and nose rings
- E. Be physically comfortable yourself

6) The speech II

- A. Avoid “um” and quaint expression
- B. Not everything is amazing and unbelievable
- C. Keep introduction short and attention grabbing
- D. Translate, translate, translate
- E. Keeping stories and parables relevant
- F. Vaudeville
- G. End once and once only
- H. Leave from the heart
- I. Charge!

7) Misc.

- A. Voice inflection – BBC
- B. Rav Vozner zt”l on Kol Isha
- C. Animation
- D. Know the temperature
- E. Careful with media and handouts
- F. Know the room, audible
- G. Keep it simple, not actuarial
- H. Pay attention to previous speakers
- I. Speech ends after you sit down