

The Oral Synthesis – A Thank-You Speech

The Oral Synthesis is a short thank-you speech given by two students at the end of a “Talk & Workshop” session. Students are required to use all of the expressions indicated below. They should also study carefully the “Oral Synthesis Example” and, of course, add suitable information (taken down during the talk) in order to *personalize* their speeches. However, the latter should not be too long. Finally, all the expressions have to be learned by heart so that when giving the thank-you speech (standing up!) the students can look directly at the speakers and the audience instead of having their heads bent down over their booklets!

Student No. 1: (30 seconds - up in front of the class without any notes! Just the handout!)

On behalf of...

I'd like to say that we thoroughly enjoyed listening to...

The speakers, “X” and “Y”, informed us all about...

The speakers... presented the various aspects of... explained to us how...

We learned first of all..., secondly..., thirdly..., and finally...

And now over to my colleague... “Z”

Student No. 2: (30 seconds - up in front of the class without any notes! Just the handout!)

I agree totally with what... has just said.

Furthermore, I would like to say...

The visuals (slides) were...

The speakers were...

They had prepared a workshop on...

It was an activity, which we all enjoyed participating in!

Allow us, however, to point out that... (*“Sandwich technique” = compliments—criticism—then compliments again*)

...it might have been better to...

...we regretted not having...

...the speakers could have...

We would also suggest that for a future talk... the speakers should...

Nevertheless, and in conclusion we wish to compliment the speakers on...

...their explanations / research / visuals / handout

...the quality of their English...

...and their broad knowledge of...

Student No. 2 continues... unless there are three speakers*.

The numerous questions asked after the talk (*if that was the case*), and as I (we) mentioned before, the active participation of the audience in the workshop activity, which was...

...a “challenging” role-play game / a “lively” debate...

...showed how much everyone appreciated this presentation.

So now we ask you to give our distinguished speakers a warm round of applause / a standing ovation!

**In case of a 3rd speaker this last part should be more original, i.e., not just these sentences learned by heart but lengthier descriptions of the talk and the workshop as well as additional comments and compliments.*