

The background is a whiteboard filled with various hand-drawn business diagrams and charts. It includes several line graphs with upward trends, bar charts, and circular diagrams. Key terms like 'PLAN', 'PROGRESS', 'MANAGEMENT', 'IDEA', 'MAX', 'OPTIONS', 'START', 'NEXT', 'SUCCESS', and 'UP/DOWN' are scattered throughout. There are also arrows, question marks, and small human figures representing people in a team or organizational structure.

# Presenting Your Research Better

Workshop (Shimane University)

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# Today's Plan

Who are you?  
Who am I?

Why is  
presenting  
your research  
important?

Getting back to  
basics

Slide design

Storytelling  
your research

About the 3MT

Presenting  
effectively in  
three minutes

Activities

Wrap up and  
Q&A

- I want you to write down:
  - Your name
  - Your field of study
  - Your interests
  - What you hope to achieve from this workshop
  - Something interesting about yourself
- Once you write this down, I want you to present this information to the class (keeping in mind this is a workshop about presenting information)



Who ARE  
you?



Who am  
I?



**Why is  
presenting  
your research  
important?**





## Stop & Think

- What aspects of presenting your research do you find easy?
- What aspects of presenting your research do you find challenging?
- Do you enjoy presenting?

# Why Effective Research Presentations Matter

- Presenting your research effectively is not just about sharing findings—it's about amplifying your impact, fostering collaboration, and advancing your career in academia.



# Why Effective Research Presentations Matter

<b>Knowledge Dissemination</b>	Presentations allow researchers to share their findings with a broader audience, including peers, potential collaborators, and the public. This dissemination is vital for advancing the field and contributing to the collective knowledge base.
<b>Feedback and Collaboration</b>	Presenting research provides an opportunity to receive constructive feedback from others, which can help refine ideas, address weaknesses, and strengthen the research. It also opens doors to collaboration with others who might be working on similar or complementary topics.
<b>Professional Development</b>	Effective presentation skills are essential for a researcher's career. Being able to communicate complex ideas clearly and persuasively is important for securing funding, publishing papers, and advancing in academia.



# Why Effective Research Presentations Matter

<b>Visibility and Recognition</b>	Presenting research at conferences or workshops increases a researcher's visibility in their field. This can lead to recognition, invitations to speak at other events, and opportunities for career advancement.
<b>Impact and Influence</b>	A well-delivered presentation can inspire others, influence ongoing research, and potentially shape the direction of future studies. It ensures that the research has a lasting impact beyond just the written publication.
<b>Building Confidence</b>	Regularly presenting research helps build confidence in public speaking and in the researcher's own expertise. This confidence is crucial when defending one's work in front of peers, committees, or funding bodies.

# Getting back to basics

Basic presentation skills





## Stop & Think

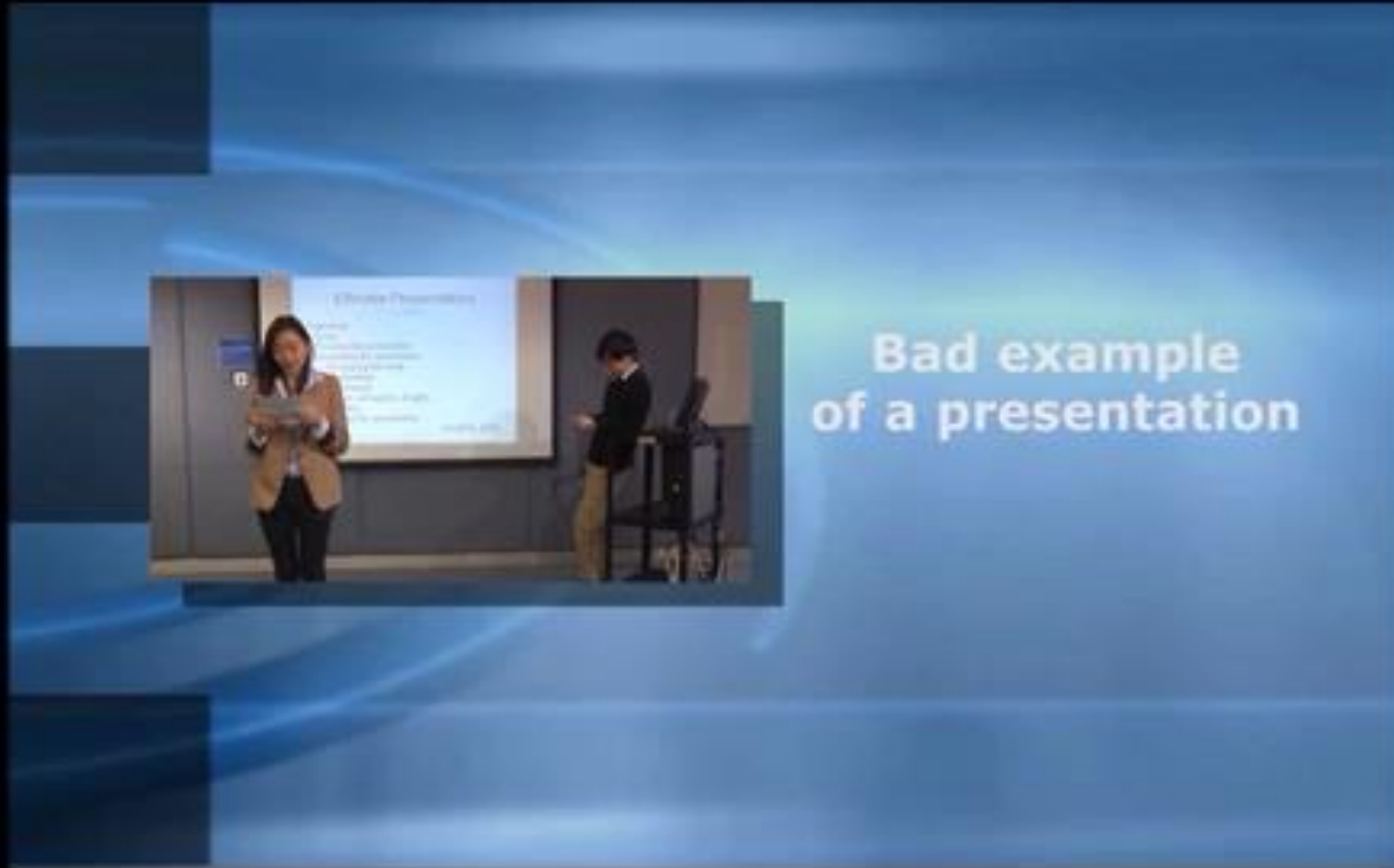
- In what ways do you prepare for your presentation?
- What do you focus on?

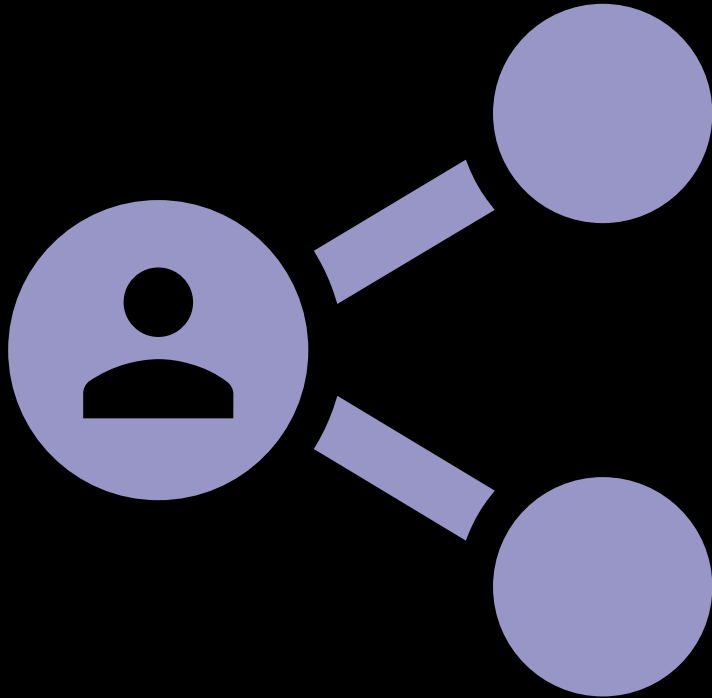
# Verbal presentation skills

- Public speaking is a skill that can be improved.
- Always consider your audience.
- You must think about your language choice, rhythm, flow, pitch and timing. Use pauses strategically.
- Use a conversational tone and make eye contact with the audience to keep them engaged.
- Remember, to breathe!
- Avoid scripts and try talking to your audience not at your audience.



# Example – What do you notice?





# Discussion

- With the people around you, discuss what you noticed.
- It seems unrehearsed.
- They seem like they don't want to be there.
- Some language is not clear.
- Second language speakers face difficulties.
- Practice is key!

# Non-Verbal presentation skills



What did you see in the previous example that showed not so good non-verbal communication?



How did you feel when you watched the previous example?



Like verbal communication, you should practice and ensure your gestures match your words.



You should think about:

# Non-Verbal presentation skills

- posture
- the way you walk
- your eye gaze with the audience
- facial expressions (match them with your presentation)
- your conscious/unconscious movements (e.g., playing with your hair)
- Gestures (illustrators and emblems)





DIANE



CARL



CHERYL



SIMON

# Who looks more confident?

**How would you rate the presentation?**

# Rating



What was good about it?



Body language? What types of gestures did the presenter use?



Was it entertaining? Did it capture your interest?



What was the point of his talk?



# Slide(s) Design

# Slide Design



As researchers we spend a great deal of time using PowerPoint, either for research or teaching.



Learning to create impactful and meaningful slides is important.



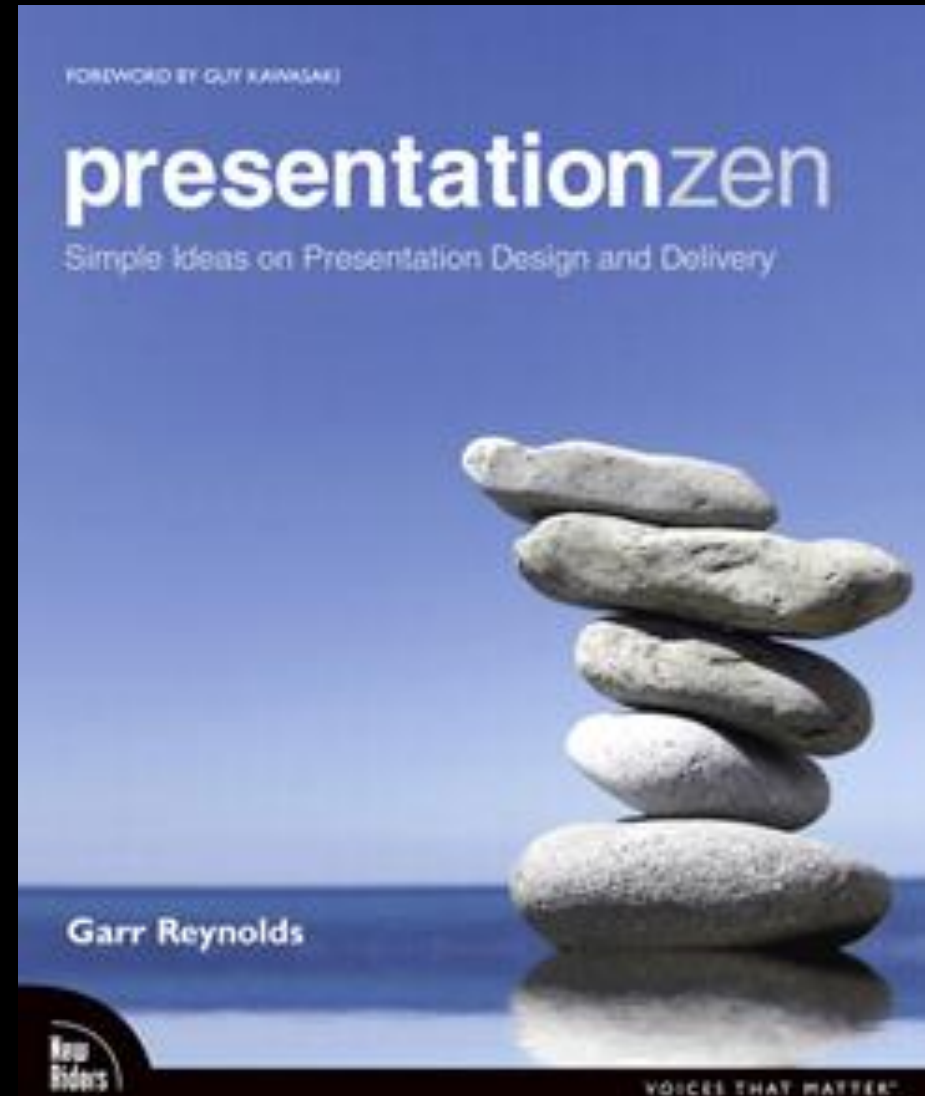
Images are a good way of communicating your message.



You should also keep in mind two points: (1) best practice and (2) know your audience.

# Slide Design (Best practice)

- You should avoid:
  - Too much text;
  - Overcrowding the slide;
  - Using multiple fonts;
  - Inconsistent colours and designs;
- Instead, you should have clear design with a purpose.
- I recommend Garr Reynolds's book for reference.



# Slide Design: Know your audience

- While the previous points are generally best practice, there are times when this is difficult to follow.
- Teaching and research presentations sometimes fall out of these categories.
- Keep in mind your audience – language choice and choose pictures which are not offensive to your audience.



# Images

Research suggests that specific types of images elicit emotional responses (e.g., Green & Brock, 2000). Such images include:

- Human faces and expressions
- Dramatic lighting and colour
- Symbolism and metaphor
- Nature and landscapes
- Vulnerability and fragility



**How does this make you feel? What comes to mind?**



How does this make you feel? What comes to mind?



**How does this make you feel? What comes to mind?**



**How does this make you feel? What comes to mind?**



**How does this make you feel? What comes to mind?**



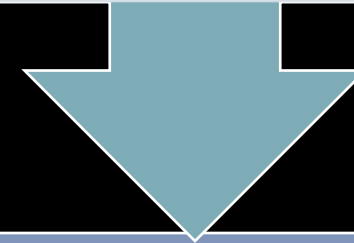
# Activity: Slide Design

On the handout, I want you to design your “perfect” slide for your 3MT. You can:

Draw  
pictures

Write notes

Sketch/map  
out what  
you will do



Once you are done, use your device to design a slide.



**Break Time**



Storytelling  
your  
research

STORYTELL





# Stop and Think

Who likes movies, TV dramas, books? Which one is your favourite? What is the basic overview of the study?

# What is research storytelling?

Involves presenting research findings and concepts in a narrative format, making the content more engaging, understandable, and impactful.

It includes the elements of storytelling—such as plot, characters, conflict, and resolution—to convey complex information and insights

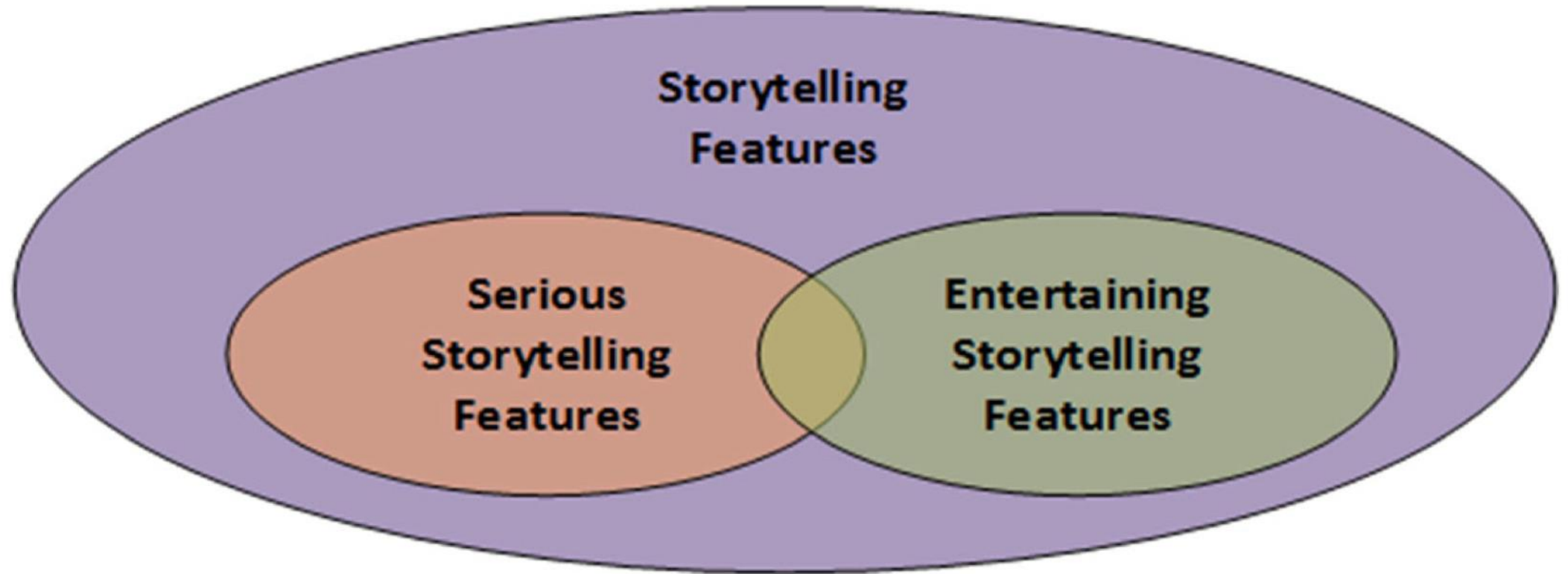
# Why is Disney so good?



- Inciting Incident
  - Rising Action
  - Climax
  - Resolution
  - Denouement (conclusion)  
(day·**noo**·mon)
- Sleeping Beauty
    - Birth and Blessings
    - Curse Fulfilled
    - Hero's Quest
    - Awakening and Happy Ending

“Well-written research can be composed to create a captivating story... As a result, there is a story-like presentation that can capture the attention of children and adults” (Enago, N.D)

# Research storytelling



**Fig. 1** Overlap between features of Storytelling, **Serious** Storytelling, and Entertaining Storytelling

# Why is it important?



**Engages the  
Audience**



**Simplifies  
Complex Ideas**



**Enhances  
Retention**



**Builds Emotional  
Connection**




**Clarifies Purpose  
and Relevance**



**Encourages  
Action**

**Consider**

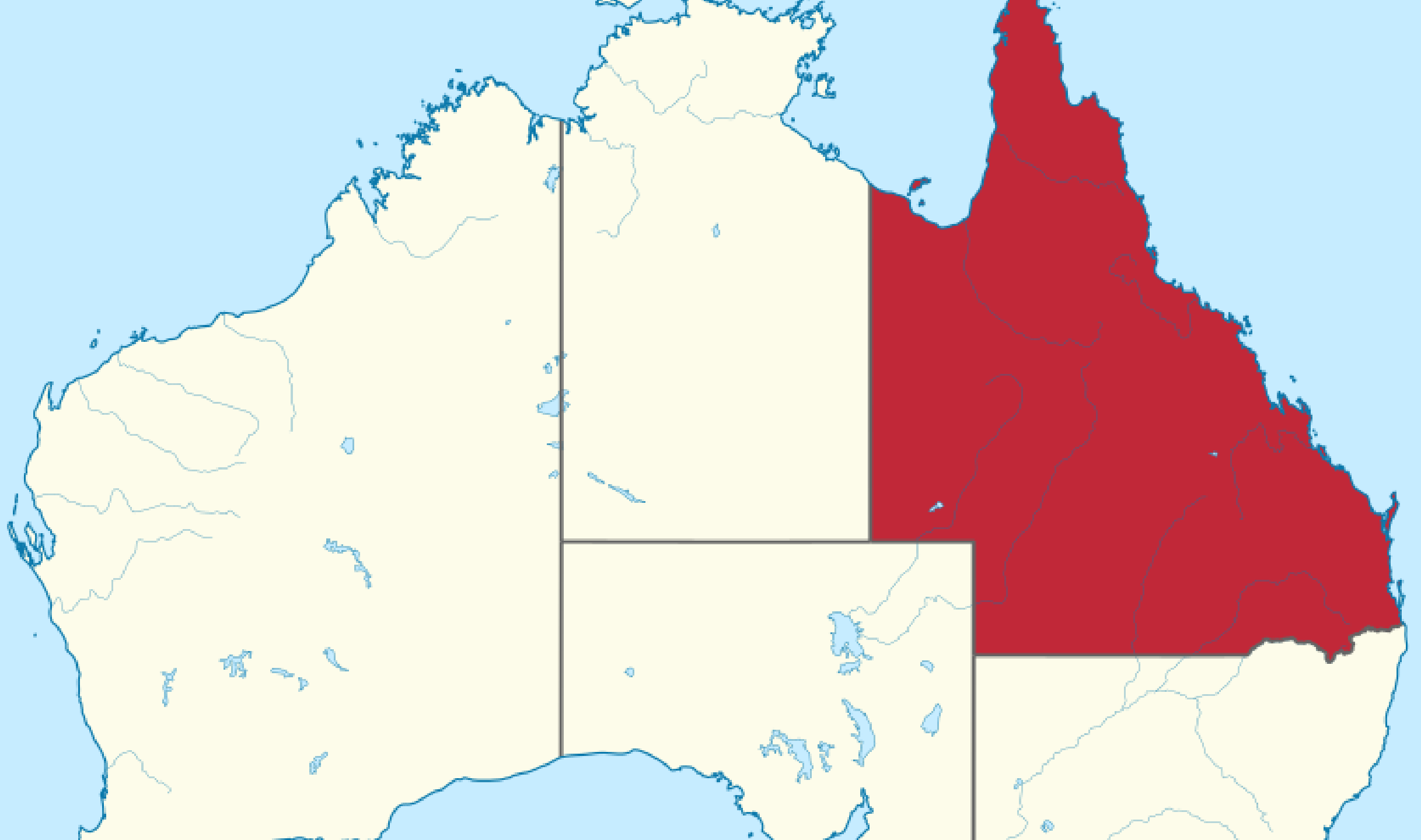


# 3 Minute Thesis Competition

# 3MT Competition

- The 3MT competition raises awareness about the amazing research produced by PhD Students.
- The competition was developed by the University of Queensland in Brisbane Australia.
- The competition draws together students' academic, presentation and communication skills.
- By competing in the 3MT, students will be able to explain their research in 3 minutes to a non-expert audience.








THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA



# Key Points of 3MT

- Have you ever seen a really good presentation?
  - What did the presenter do to make it really good?
- Generally, effective presenters use:
  - Language and body language applicable to the audience. Often personalizing their work.
  - Linguistic/paralinguistic devices to “hook” and connect to the audience (e.g., personal stories, humor, emotive language, etc).
  - A style of language that talks to the audience rather than talking at the audience.



# Designing your 3MT Slide

- Less is more.
- Use pictures rather than text to describe your research (pictures stay in the mind; text doesn't).
- Use creative techniques to highlight particular areas of the slide (use black & white, color, contrasting, etc).
- Images can be universal (and humans are visual creatures).
- Pictures can change your mood, as they can invoke feelings of happiness, sadness, excitement, fear, etc.
- **BE CREATIVE**

# 3MT Rules

1. A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description are allowed. The slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration.
2. No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
3. No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
4. Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
5. Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
6. Presentations are to commence from the stage.
7. Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through either movement or speech.
8. The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.
9. Take necessary care of intellectual property rights or any other legal rights of other parties to create a presentation slide. The source/attribution needs to be clearly indicated as necessary.

# Judging Criteria

Judging criteria is from  
two perspectives:

Comprehension and  
content

Engagement and  
communication



# First Impressions: Hooking Your Audience

- When you give a presentation, the first few moments are most crucial.
- They are the moments that will arouse interest in your audience and make them excited to hear your talk, or it will drive them to boredom.
- Research shows that when bored, the human mind does not pay attention.
- As a result, “hooking” your audience is a vital presentation strategy.
- A good hook will allow your audience to form an impression of you and the contents of your presentation.

# How to Hook

1. Start with a compelling story
2. Pose a provocative question
3. Share a startling fact or statistic
4. Use a metaphor or a powerful quote
5. Use a captivating visual
6. Create a sense of urgency
7. Present a problem or challenge





# Activity

- I am now going to give you 15 minutes to produce a hook for your 3MT.
- Work in groups; think about how you can develop a specific hook for your research.
- Use the worksheet to help you develop your hook and use your group members to make it better.

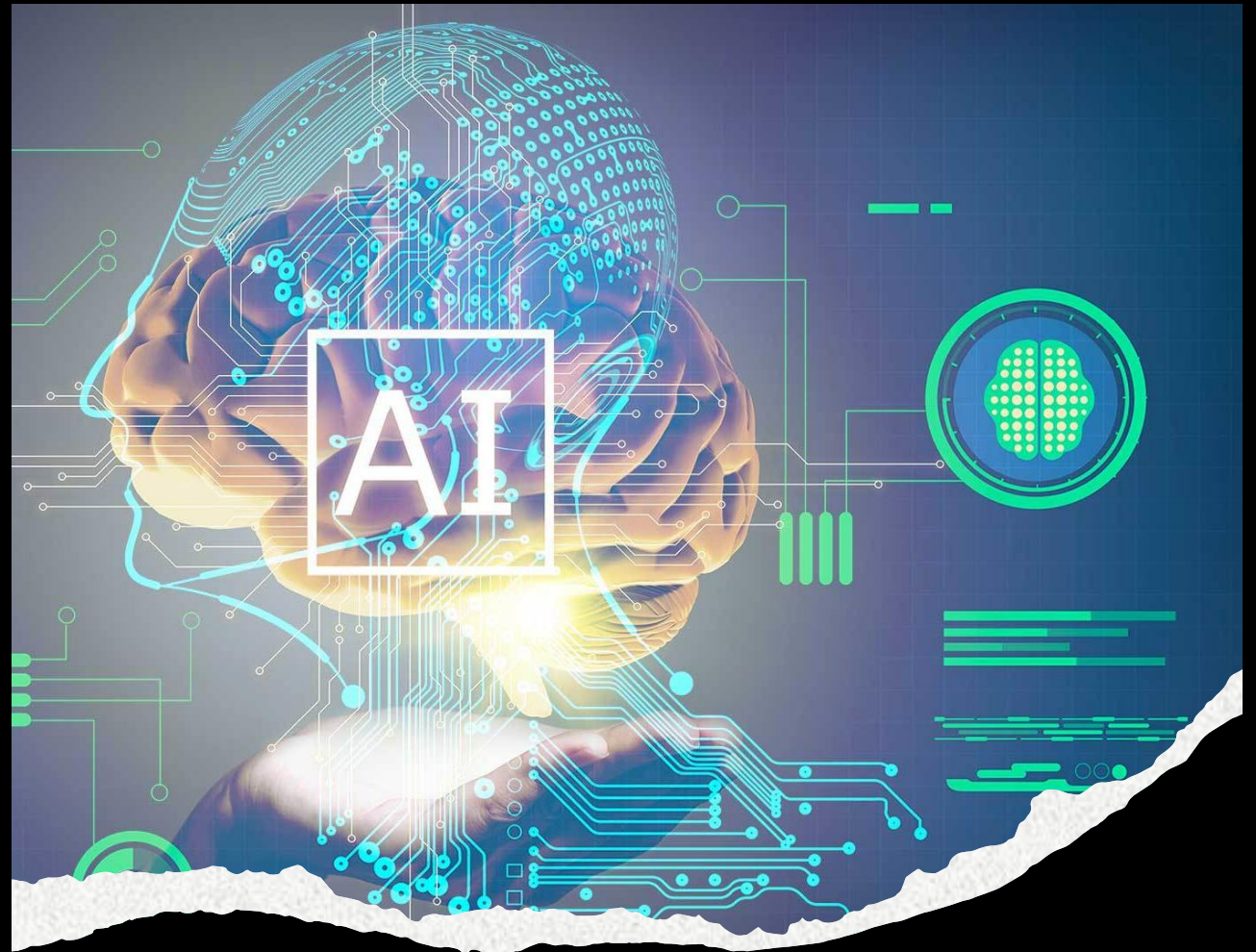


# Activity: 3MT Research storytelling

- 3MT Workshop Worksheet: Crafting Your Research Story
- **Objective:** This worksheet will help you apply storytelling techniques to your 3MT presentation.
- By the end of this activity, you should have a clear and engaging narrative for your 3MT, structured to effectively communicate your research within the strict 3-minute time limit.
- You can use the 3MT judging criteria to help you.

# Using AI to improve your 3MT

- Crafting a Clear Narrative
- Simplifying Complex Concepts
- Generating Engaging Content
- Optimizing Language and Style
- Practicing Delivery
- Creating Visual Aids
- Time Management
- Gathering Audience Feedback





# Narrowing Your Research

# Narrowing Your Research



One of the most difficult things to do, is to narrow or focus your research down into “bite sized” pieces.



You need to consider two main points:



Time: How much do you think you can talk about in 10 minutes? 20 minutes? 1 hour? 3 minutes?



Audience: Who is the presentation addressing?

# Narrowing Your Research

Focus on one or  
two main ideas.

This could be your  
results, methods,  
implications.

# Narrowing Your Research

If you try and do too much, you run the risk of drowning out the main idea of your presentation.

In this case, "too much will be too little".

# Why is Your Research Important?



Figuring out this question is a (difficult) process.



You need to step away from your research to fully understand why your research is important.



What did you do that was groundbreaking? Innovative? Different?



What did you find? A null hypothesis is still a result.



What implications does your research have?





# Activity

- If your previous presentation was a little long, or a little confusing for your audience, or a little boring, use this time now to narrow down your presentation, to focus on one main idea.
- You will have 15 minutes to do this.

# Activity

- Once you have focused your research story, re-tell your story to your group.
- Your group members will once again rate your speech and give you feedback.



A close-up photograph of a classic blue alarm clock. The clock has two rounded bells on top, a silver metal handle arching over them, and a white clock face with black numbers and dots. The numbers 11, 12, and 1 are visible. The background is a solid, light pink color. The text "Break Time" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image, overlapping the top of the clock.

**Break Time**

# Q&A Session

