How to give a good presentation

Problem based learning - 14 May 2018
Things to take care of

1. Slides (Style, structure, …)
2. Content
3. Graphics
4. General things
Slides (1)

- Include your name (first and last name on the 1st slide)
- Include slide numbers (makes it easier to ask questions in the end)
- The font size should be at least 18pt
- Don’t use a font with Serifen (e.g. Times New Roman)
- Avoid center justification
- Follow the 5 ± 2 rule: 5 ± 2 bullet points per slide
- Avoid full sentences except for definitions or similar
Avoid too extravagant layouts and shrill colours
Make sure that the text is readable
  - especially if you are using a different colour scheme than black text on white background
Animations, if any, should be used in moderation
Make sure to use all the space on a slide without overloading it
Take enough time to explain a slide (2-3 minutes per slide)
How Rivers Are Formed

- Rivers start as very small streams and gradually get bigger as more and more water is added. Heavy rains and spring meltwater add so much water to some rivers that they overflow their banks and flood the surrounding landscape.
- The water in rivers comes from many different sources. Rivers can begin in lakes or as springs that bubble up from underground. Other rivers start as rain or melting snow and ice high up in the mountains.
- Most rivers flow quickly in the steeply sloping sections near their source. Fast moving water washes away gravel, sand and mud leaving a rocky bottom.
- Rivers flowing over gently sloping ground begin to curve back and forth across the landscape. These are called meandering rivers.
- Some rivers have lots of small channels that continually split and join. These are called braided rivers. Braided rivers are usually wide but shallow. They form on fairly steep slopes and where the river bank is easily eroded.
- Many rivers have an estuary where they enter the ocean. An estuary is a section of river where fresh water and sea-water mix together. Tides cause water levels in estuaries to rise and fall.
References should be cited according to scientific conventions already in the presentation (i.e. title, author, journal, date of release)

- you don’t have to cite everything, but the main aspects
Word2Vec

Mikolov et al. (2013): Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space
Content

- References should be cited according to scientific conventions already in the presentation (i.e. title, author, journal, date of release)
  - you don’t have to cite everything, but the main aspects
- Complicated interrelationships can be explained with help of examples
  - try to find (artificial) examples as simple as possible
  - explain the more complex application afterwards using e.g. a real-world example
Word2Vec

- Words with similar vector representations show multiple degrees of similarity
- E.g. Vec(King) - Vec(Man) + Vec(Woman) ≈ Vec(Queen)

Mikolov et al. (2013): Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space
Graphics (1)

- Try to use graphics as often as possible
  - can include e.g. logos for used databases, sketches, workflow diagrams, ...
  - “unofficial” rule in the Rostlab: every other slide should contain a graphic
- If you adapt graphics from a journal/download them from the internet, include the proper citation
- Make sure your graphics have a high enough resolution
  - sometimes, it looks better to draw the graphic again yourself instead of using a badly scanned picture
- Make graphics as big as possible (i.e. use the whole space available on the slide)
- Use a pointer to explain certain aspects of your figure
Graphics (2)

● Graphics should always have a title and a clear labelling of the axes

● Make sure that title, labels, etc. are large enough
  ○ For most tools to generate graphics, you have to increase the default font size

● Make sure the important aspects of your graphic are visually easy to see
  ○ Mark certain data points that you want to discuss with an arrow or similar
  ○ Draw horizontal or vertical lines to separate parts of the graphic
  ○ Colour different aspects differently (make sure that these colours are easy to distinguish)

● Make sure that you explain your graphic thoroughly
  ○ Start with a general explanation of what we see and the axes before discussing individual data points
ProtVec

- Proteins from the same categories cluster together
- with a few exceptions
- there are some aspects of this figure taken from the paper by Asgari et al. that do not fulfill our requirements for a good figure

Asgari et al. (2015): ProtVec: A Continuous Distributed Representation of Biological Sequences
General things

- Check the technical setup in advance
- Make sure to have a backup plan (i.e. have a USB stick with your presentation prepared)
- Introduce yourself
- Talk to the audience, not the screen
- Speak slowly and clearly
- Try to speak without note cards
- Stay within the given time
- Mark the ending of your talk clearly
- Practice, practice, practice!
THAT CONCLUDES MY TWO-HOUR PRESENTATION. ANY QUESTIONS?

DID YOU INTEND THE PRESENTATION TO BE INCOMPREHENSIBLE, OR DO YOU HAVE SOME SORT OF RARE "POWER-POINT" DISABILITY?

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENT?

THERE WAS CONTENT?