

## Voice and Performance Techniques

Oral language uses a variety of **voice techniques**, as well. The following list shows you how and why you can vary your voice:

- **pace** – fast to show excitement, slow to show importance
- **pitch** – high to show excitement, low to show importance and authority
- **intonation** – the rise and fall of your voice when you speak
- **inflection** – when your voice goes up at the end of the sentence as if you were asking a question
- **tone** – feeling needs to suit the words said
- **volume** – loud to show excitement, soft to show fear
- **pause** – a planned rest in your speaking to emphasize an idea
- **enunciation** - pronounce words or parts of words clearly
- **emphasis** - stress laid on a word or words to indicate special meaning or particular importance

Source: <http://www.studyit.org.nz/subjects/english/english2/5/subjectcontent/orallanguage/>

Don't forget the importance of good **performance techniques**, as well.

- **Nonverbal techniques** - facial expressions, the tone and pitch of the voice, gestures displayed through body language and the physical distance between the communicators
- use of props or effective visuals
- eye contact
- memorize