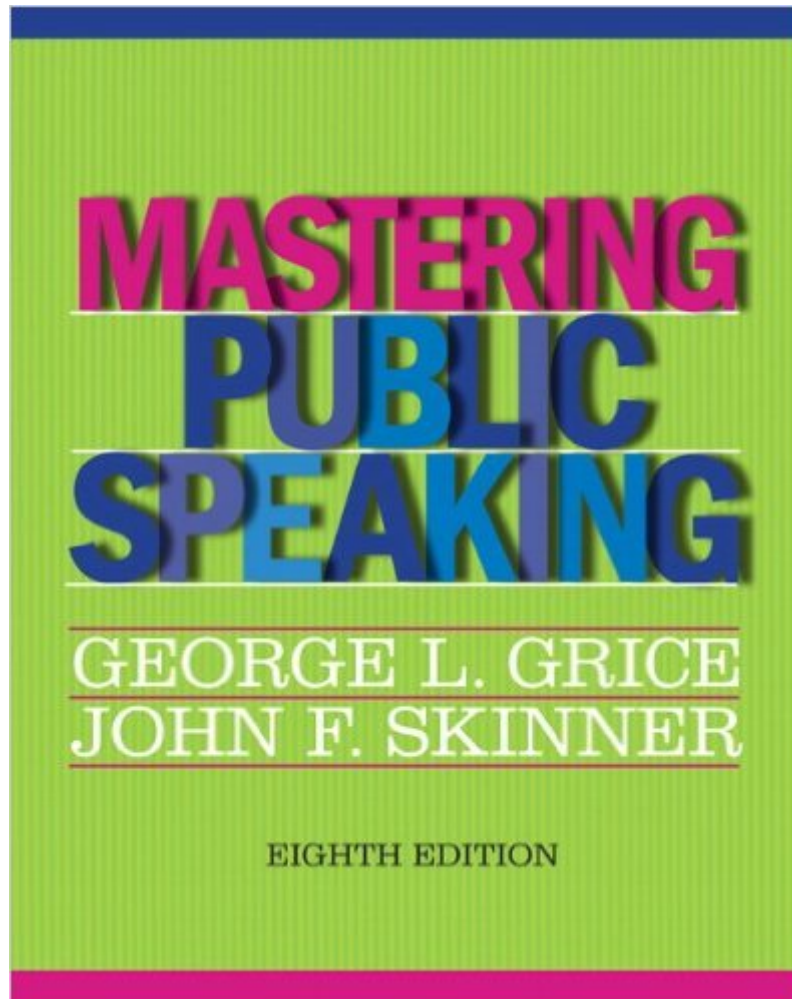


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# Mastering Public Speaking (8th Edition)



## Synopsis

Updated in its 8th edition, *Mastering Public Speaking* equips readers with a firm grounding in the art and science of public speaking by providing an ideal balance of theory and skills while placing important emphases on critiquing, ethics, and critical thinking. Written in a casual, lively style and clearly organized, the eighth edition of *Mastering Public Speaking* builds on its previous success. The first public speaking book to devote an entire chapter to ethics, the eighth edition continues its popular and distinctive emphasis on the ethical contract between speaker and listener.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (59 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #58,776 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Theater](#) #76 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Public Speaking](#) #184 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater](#)

## Customer Reviews

Shortly after reading this book, I was able to stand on a street corner and address a multitude of people as they passed by me. I was able to lecture for hours on the coming of the apocalypse. I knew I was able to clearly get through to people as some actually glanced at me on their way by. It could have been my tinfoil hat or the socks I have not washed since July, but I would like to attribute it to this wonderful work of literature that helped me master public speaking. Keep watching the skies!

I'd considered buying this book from Amazon, and decided to first examine a copy at the Boston Public Library. I was unimpressed. The tone seems aimed at middle-school students, and the text is littered with patronizing "Dick & Jane" anecdotes. A quick glance through the table of contents suggests that Grice and Skinner address nearly every conceivable aspect of public speaking -- but

a closer examination reveals a complete lack of depth. It seems as if they simply brainstormed ways to add pages without actually investigating their subject. The most derelict example I found was the second chapter, devoted entirely to a discussion of ethics. This chapter includes a section on plagiarism, where Grice and Skinner define plagiarism and warn students that getting caught may result in failing a class or being expelled from school -- hardly the sort of information you'd expect from a college-level textbook. Meanwhile, Grice and Skinner lazily sidestep the most challenging issue -- the employment of speechwriters -- by confining its mention to a brief, rhetorical question among the chapter-end exercises. In other words: "Here's a complex issue. We've exhausted our space with rudimentary ones, but we encourage you to do some real work on your own!" There are some informative, useful books on public speaking. Richard Dowis and James Humes have each written excellent books on crafting and delivering a speech. Virgil Anderson and Ann Utterback have written valuable books on training your voice, and Livingston Taylor and Keith Johnstone have written classics on stage performance. My suggestion is to skip this book. I was thoroughly disappointed with its lack of ambition, and I'd hate to be stuck with a professor who found it respectable.

The book is very informative. It has cheatsheets printed on the back cover. There is also information to help you with your first speech because the author realized that speeches would be prepared before the student could finish reading the book.

I ordered this book for school and it was cheaper here. The book is good, easy to read. It had a lot of good tips in there for public speaking. I recommend this book to high school and college students or anyone looking for great tips on public speaking.

I bought this book for my Public Speaking class in college. it is a great book and has a lot of useful information. if you need help speaking in public, or you are taking a speech class I would highly recommend this book.

It's a text book. For a public speaking class. There's some good tips in it, but I don't get super excited about textbooks on the daily any ways. I haven't found any real problems with it though so 5 stars.

I didn't want this book, but needed it for a required class (going back to school to finally get a

degree.) As far as textbooks go, I can see this one as actually have some use beyond the end of the class, as my recent career changes have made interfacing with clients and even making presentations important. Well laid-out and easy to use as a reference.

The book is very helpful.. Thank you!!!! The class is a bit challenging but the book is giving a clear understanding of the material. Thank u also for sending the book in a clean look and no torn pages. :)

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