

Presentation prep: which parts are AI's, and which are yours? — Preparing a presentation

Five-Minute AI Lessons · Oct 8, 2026

Hand off the pieces you can fix, and do the pieces with your name on them yourself.

In a nutshell

- 1 Preparing a presentation isn't one big lump. It splits into pieces like **narrowing the topic, gathering sources, making slides and practicing.**
- 2 The pieces AI is good for are **rough drafts and busywork** — listing outline ideas, shortening long sources, sketching a first draft of the slides.
- 3 The pieces you have to do exist **because you're the one standing up there**: deciding what to say, checking numbers, practicing, and answering questions.

How much you can hand off, piece by piece



Up top are pieces you can fix; down below are pieces with your name on them.

Key idea: hand off the pieces you can fix; do the pieces with your name on them yourself

Splitting up a 5-minute talk on "Recycling in our class"

Where AI can help

Rough drafts and busywork

Narrow the topic

Outline ideas

Sum up sources

Draft slides

Polish the scri...

Practice

These are pieces where if it's wrong, you can just fix it. So handing them off costs you little.

What you do

Work that carries your name

What to say

Check numbers

Cite sources

Practice

Answer questions

Draft slides

When you present, you're standing up there alone. The questions come to you, and wrong numbers stay under your...

Handing it all over

When you don't split it up

Handed it all o...

Sounds great

Not your voice

No sources

Stuck on questi...

It sounds convincing, but it falls apart after one question. You can't explain a sentence you never read.

Tap the buttons to split up the pieces. Watch which pieces light up and which go dim, and you'll see the rule.

Try it yourself in the web lesson · next-token.net/en/learn/day-32/

Just three questions

Q1

Which piece is good to hand to AI?

- ① Practicing the talk
- ② Answering questions
- ③ Listing outline ideas
- ④ Speaking in front of friends

Q2

Why is it risky to hand over the whole presentation?

- ① The text gets smaller
- ② It takes longer
- ③ The slides get slow
- ④ You can't explain sentences you never read

Q3

What must you do after you get a draft?

- ① Check numbers and sources
- ② Print it right away
- ③ Make the font bigger
- ④ Pick a background color

Know the why, too

Q1

③

Like outline ideas or source summaries, it's a piece you can fix if it's wrong. You save time here and spend it on practice.

Q2

④

The sentences sound great, but it falls apart after one question. You're the one standing up there, and the questions come to you.

Q3

①

Wrong numbers stay under your name too. Check numbers where they were first published and quotes in the original, and write down your sources.

**Hand off the pieces you can fix,
and do the pieces with your name on them yourself.**



Tomorrow: Coming up with ideas — why it's better to come up with lots and then pick.