The Three Pillars of Persuasion

by florianmueck.com*

"2,300 years ago, Aristotle knew how to persuade people and move them to action. He persuaded them with arguments. With arguments based on logic (LOGOS), credibility (ETHOS) and emotion (PATHOS). Increase your rhetorical power by raising the three pillars of persuasion."

LOGOS

ETHOS

PATHOS

Fact	"The USA is made up of 50 federal states."	
Data**	"The graph shows the evolution of Chinese household incomes."	
Figure	"We increased sales by 23%."	
Research**	"Research shows that the more chocolate you eat, the lower your body fat level is."	
Survey**	"Last Sunday, 41% of Germans said that they would vote again for Angela Merkel."	
Statistic**	"Statistically, people born in the nineties have an 80% chance to live in three centuries."	
Expert opinion	Steve Jobs said that, "Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works."	
Example	Sharing a personal experience.	
Demo	Seeing is believing. Show it!	

Reputation	General belief or opinion that others have about you. Influenced by position, titles, awards, accomplishments, humanitarian work,
Authority	Self-confidence (direct eye contact, open gestures and body language, strong voice and vocal variety), conviction, determination, decisiveness.
Similarity	Always look for common ground with your audience. Address it and ask questions like, "Who of you have lived and worked abroad?"
Empathy	We believe people more who care for us. Interact with your audience – ask questions, make references to other people in the audience, start 1-1 dialogs.

Stories	We don't connect with win-win and synergies. We connect with stories. Share your personal stories describing the plot and characters. Relive dialogs.
Senses	Talk less to the brain; talk more to the body. We are visually driven, we speak visually. Evoke also the other four senses – hearing, taste, smell, touch.
Metaphor	The comparison of one thing to another. Sea of grief, heart of stone, broken heart, life is a box of chocolate, public speaking is a mountain without a peak.
Vision	My dream is to build a School of Rhetoric in Barcelona one day. Top trainings for transformers. I know I'll make it happen. What is your vision? Share your dreams!

^{*} Inspired by Conor Neill, Tobias Rodrigues and John Zimmer ** Always mention your sources.

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LOGOS	ETHOS	PATHOS
Facts	Reputation	Stories
Data** Figures		
Research**	Authority	Senses
Surveys** Statistics**		
Expert opinion	Similarity	Metaphor
Examples	Empathy	Vision
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