

Say Hello to  
your very own book of  
**Quotes**



QuotationsBook

# Quotes about Speakers and Speaking

from QuotationsBook.com

A speech should not just be a sharing of information, but a sharing of yourself.

- Archbold, Ralph

What we say is important... for in most cases the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

- Beggs, Jim

It's not so much knowing when to speak, when to pause.

- Benny, Jack

I didn't say the things I said.

- Berra, Yogi

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

- Bible

We speak that what we know and testify to that which we have seen.

- Bible

I don't care how much a person talks, if they only say it in a few words.

- Billings, Josh

If you can't write your message in a sentence, you can't say it in an hour.

- Booher, Dianna

A man who has the courage of his platitudes is always a successful man. The instructed man is ashamed to pronounce in an orphic manner what everybody knows, and because he is silent people think he is making fun of them. They like a man who expresses their own superficial thoughts in a manner that appears to be profound. This enables them to feel that they are themselves profound.

- Brooks, Van Wyck

If an eloquent speaker speak not the truth, is there a more horrid kind of object in creation?

- Carlyle, Thomas

Only the prepared speaker deserves to be confident.

- Carnegie, Dale

Speakers who talk about what life has taught them never fail to keep the attention of their listeners.

- Carnegie, Dale

Tell the audience what you're going to say, say it; then tell them what you've said.

- Carnegie, Dale

Grasp the subject, the words will follow.

- Cato The Elder

One good anecdote is worth a volume of biography.

- Channing, William Ellery

Most people have ears, but few have judgment; tickle those ears, and depend upon it, you will catch those judgments, such as they are.

- Chesterfield, Lord

Women prefer to talk in twos, while men prefer to talk in threes.

- Chesterton, Gilbert K.

A man does not know what he is saying until he knows what he is not saying.

- Chesterton, Gilbert K.

He mouths a sentence as curs mouth a bone.

- Churchill, Charles

Say what you have to say and first time you come to a sentence with a grammatical

ending; sit down.

- Churchill, Winston

Opening amenities are often opening inanities.

- Churchill, Winston

If you have an important point to make, don't try to be subtle or clever. Use the pile driver. Hit the point once. Then come back and hit it again. Then hit it a third time; a tremendous whack.

- Churchill, Winston

Orators are most vehement when their cause is weak.

- Cicero, Marcus T.

Great is our admiration of the orator who speaks with fluency and discretion.

- Cicero, Marcus T.

A good orator is pointed and impassioned.

- Cicero, Marcus T.

Say not always what you know, but always know what you say.

- Claudius

We should speak as the populace but think as the learned.

- Coke, Sir Edward

The more you are talked about the less powerful you are.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

All the great speakers were bad speakers at first.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Condense some daily experience into a glowing symbol and an audience is electrified.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

First learn the meaning of what you say, and then speak.

- Epictetus

You can speak well if your tongue can deliver the message of your heart.

- Ford, John

Half wits talk much, but say little.

- Franklin, Benjamin

He that speaks much, is much mistaken.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Once you get people laughing, they're listening and you can tell them almost anything.

- Gardner, Herbert

It is delivery that makes the orators success.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

I do not speak of what I cannot praise.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Little said is soon amended. There is always time to add a word, never to withdraw one.

- Gracian, Baltasar

He rose without a friend and sat down without an enemy.

- Gratton, Henry

There are three things to aim at in public speaking: First to get into your subject, then to get your subject into yourself, and lastly, to get your subject into your hearers.

- Gregg

I never let my subject get in the way of what I want to talk about.

- Hansen, Mark Victor

We talk little when we do not talk about ourselves.

- Hazlitt, William

Better never begin than never make an end.

- Herbert, George

Talk is cheap, except when Congress does it.

- Hightower, Cullen

Persuasive speech, and more persuasive sighs, Silence that spoke and eloquence of eyes.

- Homer

Be ever on your guard what you say of anybody and to whom.

- Horace

Every time you have to speak, you are auditioning for leadership.

- Humes, James

I don't like jokes in speeches. I do like wit and humor. A joke is to humor what pornography is to erotic language in a good novel.

- Humes, James

Most speakers speak ten minutes too long.

- Humes, James

To speak and to speak well, are two things. A fool may talk, but a wise man speaks.

- Jonson, Ben

If it requires great tact to speak to the purpose, it requires no less to know when to be silent.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

Passions are the only orators to always convinces us.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

The people only understand what they can feel; the only orators that can affect them are those who move them.

- Lamartine, Alphonse De

The trouble with talking too fast is you may say something you haven't thought of yet.

- Landers, Ann

Adlai Stevenson has a genius for saying the right thing, at the right time, to the wrong people.

- Lewis, Joe E.

With all his tumid boasts, he's like the sword-fish, who only wears his weapon in his mouth.

- Madden, John

What is uttered is finished and done with.

- Mann, Thomas

Before you speak ask yourself if what you are going to say is true, is kind, is necessary, is helpful. If the answer is no, maybe what you are about to say should be left unsaid.

- Meltzer, Bernard

Before a man speaks, it is always safe to assume that he is a fool. After he speaks it is seldom necessary to assume.

- Mencken, H. L.

The best way to conquer stage fright is to know what you're talking about.

- Mescon, Micheal

Find out what's keeping them up nights and offer hope. Your theme must be an answer to their fears.

- Meyers, Gerald C.

I know you will guess all I leave unsaid.

- Mirabeau, Comte De

What orators lack in depth, they make up to you in length.

- Montesquieu, Charles De

Most of the time in married life is taken up by talk.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Once I have heard the story or joke used twice by other speakers or entertainer, I avoid it.

- Ogden, Tom

Every speaker has a mouth; An arrangement rather neat. Sometimes it's filled with wisdom. Sometimes it's filled with feet.

- Orben, Robert

Look wise say nothing and grunt, speech was given to conceal thought.

- Osler, Sir William

Do you wish people to think well of you? Don't speak well of yourself.

- Pascal, Blaise

Be interesting, be enthusiastic... and don't talk to much.

- Peale, Norman Vincent

There is danger when a man throws his tongue into high gear before he gets his brain a-going.

- Phelps, C. C.

Oratory is the art of making deep noises from the chest sound like important messages from the brain.

- Phillips, H. L.

Before the tongue can speak, it must have lost the power to wound.

- Pilgrim, Peace

One way of looking at speech is to say it is a constant stratagem to cover nakedness.

- Pinter, Harold

The first evil those who are prone to talk suffer, is that they hear nothing.

- Plutarch

They talk most who have the least to say.

- Prior, Matthew

Speak when you are spoken to.

- Proverb

Talking without thinking is like shooting without taking aim.

- Proverb

The less people think the more they talk.

- Proverb

Speak little and to the purpose.

- Proverb

Speak and the man shall be shown.

- Proverb

The words of tongue should have three gate keepers.

- Proverb, Arabian

To climb a tree to catch a fish is talking much and doing nothing.

- Proverb, Chinese

A closed mouth catches no flies.

- Proverb, French

He who comes from afar may lie without fear of contradiction as he is sure to be listened to with the utmost attention.

- Proverb, French

A good speaker makes a good liar.

- Proverb, German

Speaking comes by nature, silence by understanding.

- Proverb, German

When at a loss how to go on, cough.

- Proverb, Greek

He who knows little knows enough if he knows how to hold his tongue.

- Proverb, Italian

Two great talkers will not travel far together.

- Proverb, Spanish

Our public men are speaking every day on something, but they ain't saying anything.

- Rogers, Will

Be sincere, be brief; be seated.

- Roosevelt, Franklin D.

People who know little are usually great talkers, while men who know much say little.

- Rousseau, Jean Jacques

Is sloppiness in speech caused by ignorance or apathy? I don't know and I don't care.

- Safire, William

He suffered from a rush of words to the head.

- Samuel, Herbert

Most people have to talk so they won't hear.

- Sartre, May

It always takes a person much longer to tell you what he thinks than what he knows.

- Saying

When ever the speech is corrupted so is the mind.

- Seneca

When I think over what I have said, I envy dumb people.

- Seneca

It is terrible to speak well and be wrong.

- Sophocles

Men govern nothing with more difficulty than their tongues, and can moderate their desires more than their words.

- Spinoza, Baruch (Benedict de)

I sometimes marvel at the extraordinary docility with which Americans submit to speeches.

- Stevenson, Adlai E.

The relationship of the toastmaster to the speaker should be the same as that of the fan to the fan dancer. It should call attention to the subject without making any particular effort to cover it.

- Stevenson, Adlai E.

Some people approach every problem with an open mouth.

- Stevenson, Adlai E.

I would rather be guilty of talking over a person's head than behind his back.

- Stevenson, Adlai E.

The trouble with me is that I like to talk too much.

- Taft, William Howard

If you have nothing to say, say nothing.

- Twain, Mark

There is nothing in the world like a persuasive speech to fuddle the mental apparatus.

- Twain, Mark

There are two kinds of people who don't say much, those who are quiet and those who talk a lot.

- Unknown, Source

He who does not say too much has too much to say.

- Unknown, Source

Too many of us speak twice before we think

- Unknown, Source

What you are doing rings so loudly in my ears that I can't hear what you're saying.

- Unknown, Source

Don't talk unless you can improve the silence

- Unknown, Source

A smart person knows what to say, a wise person knows whether or not to say it.

- Unknown, Source

An orator who is disposed to evil subverts the law.

- Unknown, Source

The secret of successful speakers? Passion and compassion with a purpose.

- Walters, Lily

Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much.

- Wayne, John

Unconsciousness is one of the most important conditions of good style in speaking and writing.

- White, R. S.

A good speaker is a good listener who hears what lesser speakers fail to.

- White, Somers

Lots of people act well, but few people talk well. This shows that talking is the more difficult of the two.

- Wilde, Oscar

Talk to a woman as if you loved her, and to a man as if he bored you.

- Wilde, Oscar

Never rise to speak till you have something to say; and when you have said it, cease.

- Witherspoon





QuotationsBook