

- ▶ Give your general evaluation based on the notes you took throughout the meeting. Phrase your evaluation to encourage and support club members while identifying areas for growth. As the general evaluator of the meeting, provide feedback on individual speech and leadership role evaluations. Be sure to note where evaluations followed the defined criteria and provided specific, meaningful feedback.

WHEN YOU ARE THE TOASTMASTER

The main duties of the Toastmaster are to coordinate and conduct the entire meeting, introduce participants, and act as a genial host. The Toastmaster sets the tone for the meeting. This task is generally reserved for members who are quite familiar with the club and its procedures.

Serving as Toastmaster is an excellent way to practice planning, preparation, organization, time management, facilitation, motivation, and team-building skills as you strive to make the meeting one of the club's best.

Prior to the Meeting

- ▶ Communicate with the vice president education for a list of members scheduled to speak or fulfill meeting roles. Confirm any special theme for the meeting and any program changes.
- ▶ Reach out to the Topicsmaster to review their responsibilities and provide them with a list of members scheduled to participate as speakers or in meeting roles.
- ▶ Communicate with all speakers in advance to remind them that they are scheduled to speak.
- ▶ Based on your club policy, you may be responsible for creating an introduction for each speaker. Take time to confirm each speaker's speech title, project, time requested, and anything interesting to include in your introduction. Prepare an introduction for each speaker.
- ▶ Confirm the General Evaluator for the meeting. Encourage them to contact the other members of the evaluation team (speech evaluators, Topicsmaster, timer, grammarian, and Ah-Counter) and review their responsibilities for the meeting.
- ▶ Prepare remarks to bridge the gaps between program sections.
- ▶ Remember that serving as Toastmaster is one of the most valuable experiences in your club work. The assignment requires careful preparation to facilitate a well-run meeting.

Upon Arrival at the Meeting

- ▶ Arrive early to complete any last-minute details.
- ▶ Check with the speakers to address any last-minute changes.
- ▶ Sit near the front of the room and ask that speakers do the same for quick and easy access to the lectern.

During the Meeting

- ▶ Preside with sincerity, energy, enthusiasm, and decisiveness.
- ▶ Strive to begin and end the meeting on time. You may have to make adjustments to the schedule during the meeting to accomplish this task. Ensure each part of the meeting adheres to the established schedule.
- ▶ Lead the applause before and after the Table Topics session, each prepared speech, and the General Evaluator's remarks.
- ▶ Introduce each speaker. After your introduction, remain near the lectern. Once the speaker takes their place, return to your seat.
- ▶ Introduce the General Evaluator as you would any speaker. They are responsible for introducing other members of the evaluation team.
- ▶ Introduce the Topicsmaster.

- ▶ At the conclusion of the speaking portion of the program, request the timer's report. If your club awards a best speaker for the meeting, collect the vote.
- ▶ While votes are tallied, invite comments from guests and make announcements.
- ▶ Present awards.
- ▶ Request the thought for the day if your club has one.
- ▶ Adjourn the meeting.

Resources

- ▶ *Chairman* (Item 200)
- ▶ *Master Your Meetings* (Item 1312)
- ▶ *TableTalk* (Item 1318)

▶ WHEN YOU ARE THE GRAMMARIAN

The responsibilities of the grammarian are to introduce new words to members, comment on the language used during the course of the meeting, and to provide examples of good grammar and word usage.

Prior to the Meeting

- ▶ Select a word of the day. Choose a word to help members build their vocabularies and that they can incorporate into everyday conversation.
- ▶ Prepare a brief description of the grammarian's duties for the benefit of guests.
- ▶ Communicate the word of the day for inclusion in the agenda or develop a visual aid. Include the word, part of speech (verb, noun, adjective, or adverb), definition, and use it in a short sentence.

Upon Arrival at the Meeting

- ▶ Place any visual aid at the front of the room where it can be seen by everyone.
- ▶ Be prepared to take notes as people speak during the meeting. You may need to use the grammarian's log provided by your club. Collect it from the sergeant at arms.

During the Meeting

- ▶ When introduced, announce the word of the day. State the part of speech, the definition, use it in a sentence, and invite everyone speaking during the meeting to use it.
- ▶ Briefly explain the role of the grammarian.
- ▶ Throughout the meeting, listen to each speaker's word usage. Write any awkward use or misuse of language (such as incomplete sentences or incorrect grammar) with a note of who erred.
- ▶ Create a list of members who used the word of the day (or a form of it) and note those who used it correctly.
- ▶ When called on by the General Evaluator during the evaluation section, you may stand near your chair and give your report. Offer examples of correct usage in every instance in which there was misuse of grammar. Report the use of creative language and announce who used the word of the day (or a form of it) correctly.

After the Meeting

- ▶ The grammarian's responsibilities conclude with the meeting.