

How to be an effective speaker: humor and wit?

如何成为一名高效的演讲者：幽默和智慧

Paragraph 1:

① If you intend using humor in your talk to make people smile, you must know how to identify shared experiences and problems.

如果想在谈话中使人发笑，你必须知道如何识别（与听众）共享的经历与问题

② Your humor must be relevant to the audience and should help to show them that you are one of them or that you understand their situation and are in sympathy with their point of view.

你的幽默必须与观众相关，并且应该有助于向他们表明你是他们中的一员，或者你理解他们的处境，并且赞同他们的观点。

③ Depending on whom you are addressing, the problems will be different.

根据谈话对象的不同，问题也会有所不同。

④ If you are talking to a group of managers, you may

refer to the disorganized methods of their secretaries; alternatively, if you are addressing secretaries, you may want to comment on their disorganized bosses.

如果是同经理们讲话，你可以谈及其秘书们缺乏条理的工作方式；或者，如果同秘书们讲话，你可能就她们不善计划的老板做出评论。

Paragraph 2:

① Here is an example, which I heard at a nurses' convention, of a story which works well because the audience all shared the same view of doctors.

下面举个例子，这是一次我在护士大会上听到的。这个故事之所以（幽默）效果好是因为在场的听众对医生都持有相同的看法。

② A man arrives in heaven and is being shown around by St. Peter.

一个人到了天堂，由圣彼得带着参观。

③ He sees wonderful accommodations, beautiful gardens, sunny weather, and so on.

他看到了怡人的住所，美丽的花园，和煦的天气等等。

④ Everyone is very peaceful, polite and friendly until, waiting in a line for lunch, the new arrival is suddenly

pushed aside by a man in a white coat, who **rushes** to the head of the line, **grabs** his food and **stomps** over to a table by himself.

所有人都热爱和平、很礼貌、很友善，直到排队等候午餐时，这位新来者突然被一位穿着白大褂的人推开，只见其冲到队伍前头，一把夺过事物，怒气冲冲的跺着脚步离开。

⑤ "Who is that?" the new arrival asked St. Peter.

“那是谁？”新来的人问圣彼得。

⑥ "Oh, that's God," came the **reply**, "but sometimes he thinks he's a doctor."

“哦，那是上帝，”回答说，“但有时他认为自己是医生。”

Paragraph 3:

① If you are part of the group which you are addressing, you will be in a position to know the experiences and problems which are common to all of you and it'll be **appropriate** for you to make a **passing remark** about the **inedible** canteen food or the chairman's **notorious** bad taste in ties.

如果你是你是谈话集体中的一员，你就能理解你们所有人共同的经历和问题，从而你可以就餐厅里的难吃食物或领

导在选择领带方面糟糕的品味进行评头论足。

②With other **audiences** you mustn't attempt to cut in with humor as they will **resent** an outsider making **disparaging** remarks about their canteen or their chairman.

而对于其他听众，你千万不要试图插入这类幽默，因为他们会反感对外人的食堂或领导发表蔑视性的言论。

③You will be **on safer ground** if you **stick to scapegoats** like the Post Office or the telephone system.

但如果你要是选择调侃邮局或电话系统之类的“替罪羊”，则会处于更安全的境地。

Paragraph 4:

①If you feel **awkward** being humorous, you must **practice** so that it becomes more natural.

如果你在表现幽默的时候感觉很别扭，那么你应该加以练习来变得更加自然。

②Include a few **casual** and apparently **off-the-cuff** remarks which you can **deliver** in a relaxed and **unforced manner**.

加入一些随意的、貌似即兴的话语，用轻松自然的方式把它们说出来。

③Often it's the delivery which causes the audience to

smile, so speak slowly and remember that a **raised eyebrow** or an unbelieving look may help to show that you are making a **light-hearted** remark.

通常引听众微笑的是你说话的方式，因此说慢一些，并且记住，扬扬眉或者露出一幅不相信的表情可能有助于表明你在轻松地讲话。

Paragraph 5:

① **Look for** the humor.

寻找幽默。

② It often comes from the **unexpected**.

幽默常常来自意料之外。

③ A **twist** on a familiar **quote** "If at first you don't succeed, give up" or a **play on words** or on a situation.

对人们耳熟能详的谚语反转一下，（比如说）“你要是一开始不成功，就放弃吧” 或者用词语或者场景来做文章。

④ Search for **exaggeration** and **understatements**.

（尝试）寻找夸大其词以及轻描淡写。

⑤ Look at your talk and **pick out** a few words or sentences which you can **turn about** and **inject** with humor.

琢磨一下你的谈话，挑出你能拿来做文章的词语或者句子，为其注入幽默。