Toast

* Subjects being toasted to can be a person, idea, object, etc.
* Keep the subject being toasted to short and simple.

Composing a Toast:

1. A Toast is like a mini speech, consisting of an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. You should also apply the same speech techniques, being conscious of your volume, expression, gestures, etc.
2. The opening should capture the audience’s attention and state who or what is being toasted.
3. In the body, you can mention reasons that make the person or thing worthy of Toasting. To support your attributes, feel free to include anecdotes or quotes.
4. For the conclusion, say, “I ask you to please rise.” Pause and wait for everyone to be on their feet so there will be no distractions that will divert the audience’s attention from you. Then, say, “Please join me in a Toast to…” Here, you’d say the subject being toasted to.

This to keep in mind:

1. Try to keep the subject short, because if it’s too long, the audience will have trouble repeating it in sync.
2. Try to be original and sincere, for these are the nicest, touching, and memorable Toasts.
3. The subject being toasted to can be a person, an idea, an object, an event, etc.
4. Quotes can offer a witty remark, or confer credibility if it’s from a well-known figure, so they can be a valuable asset. Don’t overdo it or rely heavily on them. It’s most effective when it’s used to support or emphasize a point.
5. Fun facts can also be incorporated. You can make it more than just trivial by connecting it to your subject.
6. As with table topic subjects, it’s handy to have an abundance of quotes and fun facts in many different fields readily available at your disposal.
7. Your target time should be approximately one minute.