

Margaret Wan

also known as

Magic Wan



Every Meeting is a Show: The Role of the Ah Counter

Prior to the meeting:

- ★ Confirm assignment with the general evaluator.
- ★ Be prepared to explain the duties of the ah counter (see script below).
- ★ Arrive early at the meeting to finish last-minute details and settle down before the meeting starts.

During the meeting:

- ★ Listen carefully for “crutch” sounds and long pauses used as fillers, including inappropriate repetition of words or phrases (e.g., “I, I” or “This means, this means”).
- ★ Write down how many “crutches” each person used (excluding non-Toastmaster guests) during all segments of the meeting.
- ★ When called on by the general evaluator, give a report from your notes. Your duty is to provide the ah counter’s report, **not** to give a speech or an evaluation. Your report should take no more than 1 minute.

The Role of the Ah Counter Script

As ah counter, I shall take note of audible pauses used by everyone except guests, such as “Ah,” “Um,” “You know,” etc. Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, I shall give my report.

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