

How the Grammarian/Ah Counter does his/her job

The Toastmaster of the Day (TMOD) will start the education portion of the meeting and will begin by introducing the assistants, like you. TMOD will first introduce the Timer, who will stand up at his/her chair and describe the Timer's duties.

Next, TMOD will introduce you as the Grammarian and Ah Counter. You will also stand by your chair and describe your duties (describe the Ah Counter duties first, then the Grammarian duties, with the Word of the Day last, so the audience will remember it easier).

After you stand by your chair, say the following as you explain the role of the **Ah Counter**:

Good morning, fellow Toastmasters. As the "Ah Counter," I will be listening to what the speakers say and marking down on a chart any inappropriate word or sound used as a 'space filler.' 'Space fillers' can be words such as "and," "well," "but," "so" and "you know." Inappropriate sounds may be "ah," "um" or "er." I will also note when a speaker repeats a word or phrase such as "I, I" or "This means, this means."

Then explain the duties of the **Grammarian**:

As the "Grammarian," I will be listening for inappropriate uses of the English language and marking it down on the chart.

The Grammarian is also responsible for the "Word of the Day." The "Word of the Day" is _____ (say it loudly and clearly. Show the word printed on the template. Give the type of word it is [noun, verb, adjective, etc.]; give its definition; use it in a sentence; then repeat the word loudly again.).

Every speaker today must integrate the Word of the Day into what he/she says. I will log which speakers successfully use the Word of the Day and report it during the Evaluation section of the meeting.

Mr./Madam Toastmaster (Shake hands with TMOD, then you can be seated)

Remember to say the word and its definition loudly while showing the word around on a large card or sheet of paper, use it in a sentence, say the word out loud, again, then tape the card on the table in front of you, facing the podium. Then you can be seated.

Then the TMOD will introduce the next person, and the meeting will progress from there. ■