

Grammarian / Bard / Jokemaster

Allocated minutes	2:00	2:30	3:00
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As per our House Rules/Guidelines we recommend that you aim to speak to the amber time, as generally, you'll find that time flies!

Purpose

Your role as Grammarian is to challenge members to incorporate a word - which you only announce on the day - when they are speaking, in whatever their role might be.

You may choose to count and report back on how many times you heard your word used, plus any ums & ahs that you hear during the meeting

You might also choose to run a **Listening Post or Memory Master session**, which involves you testing the audience to see who was listening during the meeting!

As a Bard, you can read a passage from a book or a play, or lyrics from a song or a poem that will inspire, inform, educate or entertain the audience.

As a Jokemaster, your purpose is obviously to try and make us laugh.

Ideally you will choose a word, bard or joke that fits with the meeting's theme of the week.

In this overview:

- Pre-meeting prep
- During the meeting

Pre-meeting prep

1. Select a word of the day (if you choose one)
2. Print or write the word in large font on two pieces of paper, so that it can be clearly seen from a distance
3. Advise the Toastmaster and General Evaluator (GE) if you want time near the end of the meeting to recap on general grammar, give the memory master report, ah-counter report

and/or report back on the use of the word of the day (as they will need to allow for extra time for you from the GE's scheduled time)

During the meeting

Grammarian

When the toastmaster invites you up to the front of the room, before you address the audience, hang one of the copies of the printed word on the lectern at the front of the room for the audience, and the other from the Timer's table at the back so that the speakers can see it. Give a definition of your word and, use in a sentence to help illustrate its meaning. You could mention why you've chosen this word.

If you are planning to report back at the end of the meeting, let the audience know and tell them what you will be reporting on, such as Ah/um counter, general grammar, use of the word of the day etc.

Bard

Instead of a word, select a reading, part of a famous speech, poem, song. Feel free to incorporate your actions and personality into this.

Jokemaster

Choose an appropriate joke/story joke - keep it clean and avoid politics & religion!!

Reporting back

Instead of a recap in the second slot you could do "who said this?" and pick out phrases used during the meeting and ask 'who said this?' (memory master), but you only announce this at the end of the meeting (otherwise people will know they are going to be tested and will pay extra special attention... which defeats the purpose of seeing who was naturally listening!!).

Toastmasters International overview

You'll find the official Toastmasters International's overview of all the roles in [A Toastmaster Wears Many Hats](#) - Introducer's role, page 12