



Grammarian

Intro Script

“My job is to ensure that everyone speaks properly and to provide the word of the day. I will keep track of colorful words and phrases as well as grammatical errors. The word of the day is (introduce word, use it in a sentence etc). This word must be used during Table Topics in order to qualify for the Best Table Topics award. The word of the day is displayed here at the front of the room, and I will also hold up a copy of this from my seat to remind you.”

Before the Meeting

- All functionaries will be emailed the meeting theme and a question about it. Come up with your response to share before your role description. Keep it to two sentences. Or you might choose not to give one, especially if we are running behind on time.
- Select a word of the day (WOD) that matches the meeting theme and can easily be incorporated into everyday speech. For example if the meeting’s theme is “Summertime” you might pick the word “vacation” or “summer solstice.” An adjective or adverb is suggested, but feel free to select your own special word. If possible, post the WOD to Easy Speak.
- Make a copy of the WOD (printed in 72-point font or large enough to be seen from the back of the room), including its pronunciation, part of speech (adjective, adverb, etc.), and a brief definition and sample sentence. Hold it up from your seat.
- Collect other role supplies from the Sergeant-at- Arms and remember to return them at the end.

Role Supplies

- A copy of WOD sheet
 - Grammarian’s form
 - Clipboard
 - Pen
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During the Meeting

- Provide your role description when called upon by the Toastmaster. You may use the script above or adjust it to fit the meeting. You have a minimum of 30 seconds to a maximum of 1 minute for this. (You might also provide a brief theme-related response before this).
- Listen to everyone's word usage, especially the speakers. On the Grammarian's form, note down any colorful phrases or impressive words and who said them. Also record any grammatical errors or other misuse of language (see tips).
- Keep track of which participants used the WOD during Table Topics (impromptu speaking) part of the meeting.
- Confirm if all participants used the WOD when called upon by the Table Topics Master.
- Report on the language use when called upon by the General Evaluator.

Tips

- Choose an aisle seat that is close enough for most people to see the WOD.
- Grammatical errors you might look for include subject/ verb agreement such as "The boys is playing outside" instead of "The boys **are** playing outside." Also listen if people drop the "g" from the ending and say "singin" instead of "singing." Briefly explain the error and how the word or phrase should be used correctly. Try to mention only two to three grammatical errors during your report. Rather than to name who made the error, it may be best to speak to the person privately. By far, emphasize the positive, all the colorful words and phrases used.