

Workshop for Toastmasters

How to Construct a Humorous Speech

Presenter: Fred Pan

- Is Humor a necessity of a successful speech?

- Joke v.s. Humorous Speech

Joke : (One night stand, or Love affair)

exciting, risky, last for short time

Humorous Speech: (Marriage)

exciting (sometimes) → meaningful

less risky

itch after seven years

Don't have one night stands in marriage!

[**T**ips *in acronym*]

Self-deprecation

Making mistakes

Imitation

Language

Exaggeration



Rule of three

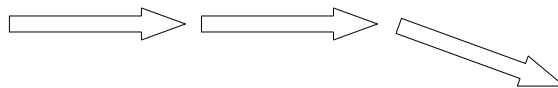
Oxymoron

Comparison

中華民國

Rule of Three

- Funny lines are said to be like a train wrecks.
- punch line:



Examples:

1. IE advice: Be accurate, be brief, and be ...
2. Love, love, and...
3. University Professor got passion, enthusiasm, ...
4. A Las Vegas wedding package: music, flower and...

Oxymoron

- a combination of contradictory, incongruous words or words that seem to mean the opposite of each other, such as “cruel kindness”

Examples:

1. Protect endangered species because...
2. Which part of body you love most?
3. I got my driving license so ...



Comparison

- one thing is like another in some way
- consider two or more things and discover the differences among them

Examples:

1. Before marriage... after marriage...
2. An apple a day ... an onion a day...
3. Cats can feel satisfy only when they sleep on your face, but dogs...

Self-deprecation

- “Laugh with others” not “Laugh at others”
- taunt at ourselves
- Speech Structure:

Self-Deprecating Jokes

Personal Anecdotes

Make Mistakes

- As we make errors, we feel embarrassed and other people laugh. So we can make it on purpose.

Example:

1. Can you give me a ride?
2. My first girl friend, Jennifer, had sunny smile, beautiful legs and big breast.

Imitate

- Imitate the characters of celebrity or dramatize the content by including vivid imagery and dialogue.

Language Translation

- Chinese People get our unique funny way to translate some sentences from Mandarin or Dialect to English.

Example:

- You earn nothing but shit
- Worry before everyone is worried.

Exaggeration

- Overstate what you experienced or amplify the effect that people never think of.

Example:

1. Be careful about reading health books...
2. When you see the mosquitoes...

Speech Inspiration

1. Find your previous speeches
2. Something that bothers you
3. JIFFY:
Jobs, Interests, Family, Friends, and Yourself

Contest Judging Criteria

** In-house Humorous Speech Contest will be held on Sep. 2*

CONTENT	55 percents	
speech development	15%	
effectiveness	10%	
speech value	15%	
audience response	15%	
DELIVERY	30 percents	
physical	10%	
voice	10%	
manner	15%	
LANGUAGE	15 percents	
appropriateness	10%	
correctness	5%	

Laughters

+

Language