

DSTM - Script for Virtual “Ah” Counter

“Thank you, Mister/Madam Toastmaster!

Fellow Toastmasters, and welcomed guests,

My duty as the “Ah” Counter is to listen carefully for verbal distractions, such as “um,” “ah”, “you know,” “and-so,” “but,” and other filler words or sounds.

I will also keep track of repeated words, like “the, the,” and, “I, I.”

Lastly, I will keep track of long pregnant pauses, when they are distracting.

Normally, when I hear these crutch words, I would use the clicker to notify the speaker. However, currently, during these virtual times, not only will I not click during the prepared speeches, I will not click during the entire meeting (perhaps we will figure out a way to accomplish clicking in the near future). I will however, keep track of the number of these types of speaking errors in writing, for each person that speaks (Big 3, Prepared Speakers, Table Topic Contestants, Evaluators, & Duty Holders), and I will give a report when called upon by the General Evaluator toward the end of the meeting.

Thank you! ... Back to you, Mister/Madam Toastmaster”

****BELOW IS NOT PART OF SCRIPT!****

Note: Don’t feel embarrassed or like you are being too harsh by pointing out speaking errors with the clicker. Often, speakers don’t realize that they are saying distracting words. It is your job to help us realize our mistakes so we can correct them!