

Role as Grammarian and Word-Master

The Grammarian helps people improve their grammar and word use. It also provides an exercise in expanding listening skills. You have several responsibilities: to introduce new words to members, to comment on language usage during the course of the meeting, and to provide examples of eloquence.

Several days before the meeting, select a "**word of the day**" that will help members increase their vocabulary and can be incorporated easily into everyday conversation. On a **sheet of paper, print your word**, its part of speech (adjective, adverb, noun, verb, etc.) and a brief definition in letters large enough to be seen from the back of the room. Prepare a sentence showing how the word is used.

At the meeting, announce the word of the day, state its part of speech, define it, use it in a sentence and ask that anyone speaking during any part of the meeting use it. Also, briefly explain the role of the grammarian.

Throughout the meeting, listen to everyone's word usage. Write down any awkward use or misuse of the language (incomplete sentences, sentences that change direction in midstream, incorrect grammar or malapropisms) with a note of who erred. For example, point out if someone used a singular verb with a plural subject. "One in five children wear glasses" should be "one in five children wears glasses." Note when a pronoun is misused. "No one in the choir sings better than her" should be "No one in the choir sings better than she."

Try to offer the correct usage in every instance of misuse (instead of merely announcing that something was wrong).

Report on creative language usage and announce who used the word of the day (or a derivative of it) correctly or incorrectly.

When you're called, you will **go to the Lectern** to give your report.P

Thank you, Vice President of Education 2020