

SCRIPT FOR TABLE TOPICS CONTEST CHAIR

Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the _____ Toastmasters Club Table Topics Contest. I'm _____, the Contest Chairperson.

1. This contest serves the following purposes:

- 1.1 To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from their Toastmasters training.
- 1.2 To encourage development of impromptu speaking skills and to recognize the best as encouragement to all.

2. I shall now read out the Table Topics contest rules in brief:

- 2.1 A contestant must be a member in good standing of the club in which he or she is competing. The club must also be in good standing.
- 2.2 All contestants shall receive the same topic, which shall be of a general nature, and shall speak for two minutes.
- 2.3 The topic shall be of a reasonable length, shall not require a detailed knowledge and should lead to an opinion or conclusion.
- 2.4 All contestants shall speak from the area designated by the Contest Chair.
- 2.5 When the contest begins, all contestants except for the first contestant, shall be escorted out of the room to a quarantine area, with all personal communication devices surrendered to the SAA for safe-keeping.
- 2.6 The topic is then read to the first contestant, who shall speak on that topic.
- 2.7 Speeches shall be two minutes long. Contestants who speak for less than one minute, or more than two minutes 30 seconds, will be disqualified.
- 2.8 Timing will begin with the contestant's first definite verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience, such as sound effects, a stage act by another person, and so on.
- 2.9 The green light will be displayed at one minute and remain displayed for 30 seconds.
- 2.10 The amber light will be displayed at 1 minute 30 seconds and remain displayed for 30 seconds.
- 2.11 The red light will be displayed at 2 minutes and remain displayed until the speech is concluded.
- 2.12 No audible devices such as a bell or buzzer will be used unless the contestant is visually handicapped.

- 2.13 In the event of technical failure of the timing device, the speaker is allowed 30 seconds extra before being disqualified.
- 2.14 There will be a one minute of silence between the contestants, during which the judges will mark their ballots, and the next contestant is summoned.
- 2.15 Announcement of contest winners is final unless the list of winners is announced incorrectly, in which case the chief judge, ballot counters, or timers, may immediately interrupt to correct the error.
- 2.16 Protests will be limited to judges and contestants only, and must be lodged with the chief judge prior to the announcements of the winners.
- 2.17 Contestants will be introduced by announcing their name and the table topic, followed by the table topic and their name. No Toastmasters titles such as CC, CL, AC or DTM will be used. No club or place of origin of the contestants will be announced.

3. Here are some reminders:

- 3.1 No one will be allowed in or out of the room when a contestant is speaking.
- 3.2 If you have to enter or leave the room, please do so during the one minute intervals, or after the contest.
- 3.3 There will be no photo or video shooting during the contest to avoid any distraction to the contestants and audience, except for the official videographer.
- 3.4 Kindly ensure all electronic noise-producing devices such as cell phones and pagers, are switched off or turned to silent mode.

Contestants, are you ready?

Timers, are you ready?

Chief Judge, are your judges ready?

Audience, are you ready?

SAA, you may now escort all the contestants, except for the first contestant, out of the contest hall.

Chief Judge, may I have the topic please? Thank you.

Our first contestant is: <read out the contestant's name> <read out the topic> <read out the topic> <read out the contestant's name>	Example: <i>Phua Chu Kang</i> <i>"Health is wealth. Do you agree?"</i> <i>"Health is wealth. Do you agree?"</i> <i>Phua Chu Kang</i>
---	---

If there are more contestants:

We shall now observe one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots. SAA, kindly bring the next contestant to the room.

Our next contestant is: <read out the contestant's name> <read out the topic> <read out the topic> <read out the contestant's name>	Example: <i>Phua Chu Kang</i> <i>"Health is wealth. Do you agree?"</i> <i>"Health is wealth. Do you agree?"</i> <i>Phua Chu Kang</i>
--	---

If there are no more contestants:

We shall now observe one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots.

With this, I am pleased to announce that the Table Topics contest has come to an end.

Counters, please collect the ballots from the judges and hand them over to the Chief Judge.

Thank you. I shall now hand the floor back to Toastmaster of the Day,

_____.