



BLT Toastmasters Newsletter

District 42 November 2020

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Got Questions Or Have An Article You Want On The Next Newsletter?

Next Month's Meeting:

December 3rd 2020 5:30pm – 8pm

December 12th 2020 10am – 12pm

For more information,
visit our website
<https://blt.toastmastersclubs.org/>

Toastmasters International
www.toastmasters.org

Special thanks to:
Randal Edge

&

Wei Zou

Thank you for your contributions

BLT Biography Shorts:

What's in a club that is advanced?



Ever wonder why certain clubs are considered advanced? What makes them like that? To answer that question, let's first ask two other questions, that some folks might be wondering about. And in the end, we can answer the first question with the answers to the first two questions.

1. Is it an elite only club?

Answer is no, it's not in anyway. Although there is a minimum requirement to join, it's very easy to meet it. Just have to have either a level 2 award in any path or one year as a Club Officer plus 5 speeches in the level 1 in any path. Or if you were around during the old system, have a Competent Communicator (CC) Designation or again One year as a Club Officer PLUS 5 speeches in the CC.

2. Are those types of clubs more special than any other clubs?

Once again No, they are not. But advanced clubs do offer more unique opportunities for further advancements, in ways that other clubs don't have time to do. They have workshops and more educational sessions and more ways of evaluating folks.

And finally:

3. What makes them like that?

As mentioned before, advanced clubs aren't more special or an elite club that's difficult to join. An advanced club is filled with folks who wish to further expand their knowledge and seek more of a challenge. It's filled with folks who are unique in their own way and want to further explore the possibilities of what they can do.

The wondering of why certain clubs are advanced, should be encouraged however, because with an open mind and a bit more research, you might just find the reason why each club is as unique as they are. An advanced Toastmasters club, such as BLT Advanced Toastmasters, simply offers chances that expand upon the information you already know and beyond. The people in these clubs, are apart of an elite group of people. They are who they are and are just like others that have a wanting to be better. A wanting to further advance their knowledge of speaking and leadership skills and get more tools in their mental department to help them achieve these things. That is what is in an advanced club, people, people who are simply trying to go further along the path that was set before them when they first joined Toastmasters. A path that has many roads, and that is what makes an advanced club, advanced!

Article by Dan Lonechild



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Celebration 23 years in the making!



Twenty-three years ago, there BLT Advanced Toastmasters was founded. And twenty-three years since then it's still going strong, providing an excellent opportunity for everyone to come and grow beyond what they already know. As an advanced club through out the years, BLT has offered an astounding amount of expanded learning and practice in what people already know in terms of becoming a great public speaker. BLT has definitely earned the title of Advanced in everyway and will for years to come. Fun fact, if you always wanted to know: BLT stands for Division-B's Leading Team. And it shows that it truly is, not just because of the advanced practicing and learning opportunities, but because of the people it has.

The people within this club is so diverse and bring so much different perspectives and ways of doing things, that you will never get enough. BLT Advanced has amassed so many talented people through out the years, that by just talking to a handful of them, you can learn so much. And that's why this club is truly special, because everyone brings something different to help further advance you. Advance you down the path of becoming not just a better public speaker, but a better you. So to the founding members of BLT Advanced Toastmasters, thank you for developing and bringing this club to fruition. For without it, we wouldn't have such an amazing opportunity to explore beyond what we already know.

Article by [Dan Lonechild](#)



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Perspectives of Others: Hybrid or Non-Hybrid Meetings



With the impact of COVID-19, everything shifts to the virtual world including our toastmaster meetings. What do you think of the online meetings? Some people are strongly in favor of it. Why? Cautious people believe it is safer and they do not need to wear the troublesome masks during a meeting in this extraordinary time. Online meetings also create more possibilities in terms of time and space. Not only can it help save a lot of time for those who need to drive a long way to the meeting rooms, but also offers the opportunity for people around the world to attend our meetings. Some young people also like virtual meetings since various new elements can be added into the regular meetings, like virtual background, video clips, and music. Another reason for some people to advocate it is that they can gain the experiences of online speaking, which is beneficial to their online interviews when they are hunting for jobs.

However, the flaws of the online meetings are also very obvious and loathed by many toastmasters. Speakers lose the interactions they could have in physical meetings with their audiences, like eye contacts, clapping, or knockings. Although some unsound signs take place the clapping or knockings, people still think the effect is too virtual and not good enough. In addition, it is easier for audiences to get distracted from or feel bored with the meetings. Some toastmasters said it was like they were watching speeches on YouTube and why did they choose to attend the online meetings instead of watching a famous speaker's speech online? Also, the relationships among our toastmasters might get undermined by the online meetings. Before the outbreak of the virus, people can sit together in a meeting room, greet each other and initiate a talking very naturally. But now we sometimes would not speak one word to another person in an online meeting. Toastmasters drain in many clubs can also be attributed to this problem.

How can we achieve a balance for people with different tendencies? Hybrid meetings should be an option to be considered. A hybrid meeting is a meeting that takes place in a physical meeting room with several people inside and also allows people to attend online. It is like a streamed live meeting and people online can also speak during the meeting. Definitely, hybrid meetings combine both the advantages and disadvantages of the two forms of meetings and can meet people with different needs to some extent. However, some details and problems still need to be discussed and addressed. For instance, how can the toastmasters in the physical meeting room watch the speeches of the people online? Should they also enter the online meeting room? Should we create new roles to meet this new form of meeting? How many people are willing to accept the hybrid meeting? We should carefully think about all the problems we might encounter during the meetings before we decide to give hybrid meetings. We could also find new problems when we are having hybrid meetings. But these problems should not be obstacles for us to provide more efficient and interesting meetings for our toastmasters. Some clubs already piloted the hybrid meetings. If your clubs are interested in hybrid meetings, we suggest you contact those clubs to obtain some suggestions.

Article by Wei Zou



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Sharp Tips

Welcome to Sharp Tips. This is monthly column whereby we will explore the mechanics of sound and how some basic knowledge of these mechanics can help us to improve as communicators and audience participants.

So let's start by posing a simple question.

What is a **Sound Frequency**?

This is a very good question.

An audio **frequency** is an **audible sound** that can be heard by the human ear. An audio frequency is a part of the working properties of a sound wave. An audio frequency is measured by Hertz (Hz). A Hz is a measurement of one cycle for per second (invented by Heinrich Hertz circa 1889). The generally accepted standard range of audible frequencies (the frequency range where the human ear can detect sound) is between 20 Hz. to 20,000 Hz. A simple way to understand audio frequencies is the idea that the **higher the audio frequency is....the higher the 'Pitch' of the sound is**. Simply put, a high pitch has a high frequency. Frequencies below 20 Hz are generally felt rather than heard. Frequencies above 20,000 Hz can sometimes be sensed by young people but are quite difficult to create with normal vocal projection. The spoken word is normally found in the sound frequency range of between 512 to 8,192 Hz. We will talk more about audio frequencies in the discussions to come.

Article by Randal Edge, DTM



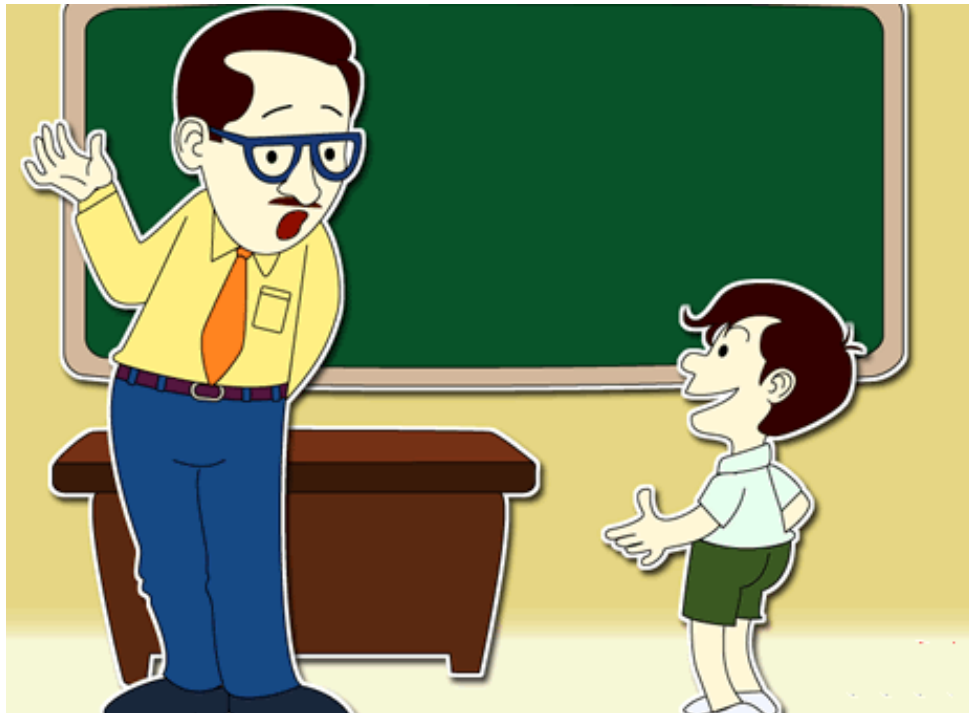


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A Bit Of Humour:

A student walks up to their teacher and asks: "Would you punish me for something I didn't do?" The teacher looked at the student and says "Of course not!" Teacher looks back at the student with disbelief "Why would you think that?" The student looks sheepishly at the teacher "Because I didn't do my homework!"





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Life Tips:

True to yourself



Why is it important to stay true to who you are? You are you and that makes you unique. No matter what you look like or your disability or who you love, you bring a uniqueness to the world that no one else will ever have. So, it's important to always stay true to who you are, even when it comes to writing speeches or what ever else you want to do in life.

Want a new job but afraid you might be too old to start over? Well, your never too old to start over, instead think of the uniqueness and lessons you learned that you would be bringing with you into the new job. Through out our lives, we learn and

grow and shape ourselves in our own way. This is not a weakness or something to simply hide away. This is who YOU are and no one else can match it. So never hold your standards against anyone else's.

All those quirks that everyone has that you might try to steer away from, instead steer towards them and embrace the quirkiness. A person may seem off putting or obsessive compulsive or even socially awkward, but that's who they are and each one of them can bring a strength that compliments your weak points. That's what makes all of us stronger, when we all learn to work together and utilize those quirks and uniqueness. We should all try to stay true to ourselves and strengthen that which we believe is our weakness. Never try to hide away, do you like playing with toy's? But do not share that with anyone because your actually 45 years old? Don't, instead embrace it, never hide that fact! Because it means you have a huge imagination that you want to express and get out in a different form.

Art takes many forms and so do people, do you talk to yourself and try to hide it or get embarrassed when folks hear you? Embrace that, because you have so much to say and require and outlet to get your thoughts out. Have a temper and try to control it? Well please control it, but try to redirect it into something else, like boxing or wrestling or demolition work even! We are who we are, and we are all unique. Never try to hide who you truly are and what makes you, you, from the rest of the world!

Article by Dan Lonechild

Got Questions Or Have An Article On The Next Newsletter?

If you got a question you want answered or you want to have your article showcased in our newsletter, please send them to:

president-6584@toastmastersclubs.org

vpe-6584@toastmastersclubs.org

vpm-6584@toastmastersclubs.org

vppe-6584@toastmastersclubs.org