



# Ah-Counter/Grammarian: Role Description and Script

*True Blue Toastmasters*

## Role Description

The purpose of the Ah-Counter/Grammarian is to note any word or sound used as a filler or crutch by anyone who speaks during the meeting. Words may be inappropriate interjections, such as *and, well, but, so, like* and *you know*. Sounds include *ah, um, uh, or er*. You should also note when a speaker repeats a word or phrase such as “I, I” or “This means, this means.” These words and sounds can be very distracting to listeners. The Ah-Counter role is an excellent opportunity to practice your listening skills, and by doing so, we notice how often and how easy it is to make these mistakes ourselves.

## Introduction Script

*When introduced by the Toastmaster, please state the following:*

“Thank you, Mr./Madam Toastmaster. Good afternoon fellow Toastmasters and guests. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I will be the Ah-Counter and Grammarian for today’s meeting. My role is to count the number of filler words speakers use that can be distracting to the audience. For example, “uh, but, um, so, like, you know,” or any repeated ‘crutch’ word. At the end of the meeting, I will announce the total number of infractions for each speaker. Each infraction incurs a donation of ten cents to our club, up to one dollar maximum, though our guests are exempted from donating. The word of the day is \_\_\_\_\_. It means \_\_\_\_\_. Using the word of the day removes one infraction. Thank you, Mr./Madam Toastmaster.”

*Flip this sheet over to use the Ah-Counter Log.*

## Reporting Script

*At the end of the meeting, stand up and briefly report the infractions of each speaker:*

“Thank you, Mr./Madam Toastmaster. Here are the number of infractions at today’s meeting: Johnny had three infractions, totaling 30 cents. Jenny had two infractions, but used the word of the day once, totaling ten cents. (...) Donations may be paid at the conclusion of today’s meeting via Cash or Venmo, and any unpaid donations will be invoiced quarterly by our club Treasurer. Thank you, Mr./Madam Toastmaster.”

*At the end of the meeting, please give this sheet to the Secretary,  
Sargent-at-Arms, or Club President.*

