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This is a list of ideas for table topics sessions. Feel free to use one of them for the next session! The contents of the show Interview with the wrong SkillsEdit Select someone and get them to describe their work and what would be the most important attribute to succeed in this position. Then select someone who will talk about why they would be the best candidate for the position with the wrong skills. What if the rules of the playground were changed so that everyone had to agree on one game to play each break? What if the driver was allowed to drive at a red light if he or she was sure that no one would come? Learn other rules. This idea hails from famous composers edited tables of Themes Master used events from the life of a famous composer. That's how it worked He put the names of four cities (Vienna, Berlin, Paris London) in five different envelopes He handed envelopes to four speakers. Speaker ONE opened the envelope and began to prepare a conversation on Vienna. The master of dining topics told us about the composer's early life in Vienna. The Master table theme told the SECOND speaker to open her envelope. She did it and started preparing a performance in Berlin. The first speaker gave a speech about Viennaz while the SECOND Speaker was preparing. The master of dining topics told us about the composer's time in Berlin, and before asking the second speaker to speak, told the speaker OF THIRD to start training. And so it went. After all, we had to guess the composer's name. Presented by Eric I Unusual Objects Edit Table Topics Master brought unusual tools and tools from all over the house. Every asdfasdfs is. After the performance, the club could guess what the implementation really is. Presented by Sue.... Twenty issues Edit 12345 Table Topics Master chose five subjects. He then played 20 questions with the club until they finally poked out what the subject was. At that point, the appointed speaker was to stand up and give a speech within 1-2 minutes on the subject. Topics were such things as: Encyclopedia Britannica; Camembert cheese; Internal combustion engine Winter; and (of course) Toastmasters International. (It takes quite longer than 15 minutes, so it's good for a meeting that lacks prepared talk. presented by Eric) Plan Vacation Edit Preparation Card with transportation options (car, motor home, plane, balloon, etc.) and cards with your budget (\$5,000, \$100, just won in the lottery, etc.). Each participant takes a transport and budget card and describes their vacation. Stop Time Edit If you could stop time for an hour, what would you do with this hour? (Presented by Bob Brentin, Midland 2399, Tuesday Talkers 5652) .. Celebrity dry cleaners We had one envelope with a bunch of celebrity names and another envelope with some conventional service professions. The speaker chose the name and occupation, and then had to explain why they would recommend that person do the job, as if they were referring to him to a friend or as if they were referring to the job. For example: Oprah Winfrey will be a great beautician because she likes to talk about... Tom Cruise would be a great person by the pool because... Michael Jordan is a great gardener because he can... (Presented by Doug Hirt, President, Allmerica Articulates, #9114/62) 15 minutes of fameEdit Everyone wears one of those old-style cheap zorror/Halloween/Party masks and (now that no one knows who you really are) :) becomes a famous man in history, i.e. Lincoln, Washington, King, etc. Give them such topics as. Tell me, President Washington, how did you motivate troops to cross Delaware on a cold winter night? (Represented by Mike Herrick - Youngstown Executive Toastmasters 408) What completes The Pattern 2 4 6 8 ...? What has four sides and these are the same sides? Which forms are round and which are round and wide? What form has eight sides? What are you swinging at? What slows you down so you don't get hurt? What animal waded in? What form are eight sides minus five? Is the number 18 even or strange? There are 2 dogs, 3 birds and one kitten in the park. How many legs do animals have? Needy NudistsEdit Once people realize that you are a Toastmaster, you will find that you will receive requests to speak on behalf of other organizations. Could you demonstrate such skill by giving us a fundraising petition for a needy nudist network. (Presented by Bill Dobson - D40 Webmasters Fake is editing one of the new TV shows called Fake. In this show, contestants pretend they are in radically different careers during the week and are trying to trick the jury. (Presented by Bill Dobson - D40 WebMasters) with the called fake tiOPneEdit Musical notesSThit one of my favorites all the time (and it can be varied every time) is to take a few 30 seconds of abbreviations of various music pieces and tapes of them. When you play a cut-out tape, ask the participant to explain what thoughts the music brings them (i.e. the theme of The Godfather, Vivaldi Spring, Little Richard Good Golly Ms. Molly, Pavarotti singing arias, or Barney's song) Really doesn't matter about the music, it all brings some thoughts to the presenter. I have Doo Whop, Opera, Country, Frank Sinatra, TV Topics etc. takes a bit of time to prepare, but can be used over and over again. (Presented by Ronald J. Bauer - DTM, Club 3478, District 37) (Some of these tips originally appeared on - 09:35, September 15, 2005 (UTC) Prosecution Witnesseslit this hearing into the circumstances surrounding Ms Liz's death Managing director perri, Perry, and Stanch, president of Perry's gruesome fashion. I am the Honourable Mr. Aubrey Derrick presiding. Ms Liz Perry was killed by unknown assailants between 7pm and 7.30pm on 27 November. Her body was found on a landing outside the Toastmasters church arriving for a meeting at 7.15pm Those of you who received the suspects' envelopes and you will need to cleanse yourself by involving another speaker in your defense. In due course to speak you will open your envelope revealing the method of killing. Ms. Perry's body was injured by the various injuries listed below: she was stabbed with an intricate Arabian dagger, a red silk robe used to garrote (Strangle) her. She was shot with a small-caliber bullet used in a Baby Browning automatic pistol. Bolt from the crossbow was sticking out between her shoulders. Various chest wounds were made by a Japanese samurai sword found near the body. An autopsy revealed that she had recently swallowed a lethal dose of arsenic contained in a 7kg peanut type used as a snack at Toastmasters meetings. Her lungs contained water, and his clothes were saturated Her skull was crushed by a bloodied rock found near the doorway Photo prompts Edit from Brian Christiansen Print the following page: (photos go about, sometimes 2, on the page) and use the photos as tips for table themes. The speaker can either say that particular item or bluff about it. Predictions Edit Print a bunch of quadrthes of Nostradamus, give one who is chosen to speak, and have them be smart and thus tell us what prophecy means. Round Robin's Story Edit One Man begins the story. The second speaker should continue the story and so on until all speakers are made. This is a departure from the usual table theme, where everyone who attends the session gets the opportunity to participate. TTM acts as a conduit and can intervene when necessary. The theme behind is started and then carried forward by the audience one by one. The goal is to try to pick up where the previous speaker stopped rather than talking on the same topic. The audience can rearrange itself in a circle for this round, or the master table themes can decide how to do it. The timing can also be defined as such. (Usually with large numbers the term is down). In this round, it should be left to guests and newcomers to decide for themselves whether to be part of the Robin Round session, or just watch. They can change their seats accordingly. One option for this session is to have a current story in which everyone chips in a bit and takes the story forward. With a shorter time on the speaker, you can have 2 or more consecutive rounds. In more extreme each speaker could only be allowed a sentence or a limited number of words. If the time is or word-dependent, TTM can decide when to pass it on, or the next speaker can make a signal like cotton and start if the current speaker flounders. The timer, of course, diverges in this round - sometimes the timer is relieved of duty and the Master Theme table doubles as a timer. Round Robin Edit is especially useful when the topicmaster doesn't show up: everyone thinks about one question. The first asks the question, he answers it and asks the next person and so on, until the last person asks his question to the person who started it. Fun Geography Edit Print Flags from Some Obscure Countries. The speaker should talk about the country within 2 minutes. The theme of the masters adds some real funny facts about each country. This can be done with the names of geographical features - mountains, lakes, rivers. Get really obscure ones and people say they've been and discuss the location. (Represented by Joy). Childhood smellsEdit The recent theme of the table in our club was one of the best we've ever seen - our dick handed out small plastic containers with a cotton-soaked smell - dettol, perfume, etc., and asked the participants what memories that smell caused. One member said dettol reminded him of the boot camp! Really worth table themes and worth a try. Sandy Scott's Dream Wedding edit In one meeting, our table theme master gave us a funny script to describe our big day. When I was chosen, I told everyone that the thief had snatched our wedding chest filled with treasures. I'd take a picture of him and his car and then call the police. My Speechcraft supervisor described how he went head-to-head at his friends wedding cake as embarrassing! If you are planning to bring out the wedding in the future, I hope it is romantic and memorable. -Kyle Peck Olympic TorchEnit In one meeting held in a week when the Olympic torch was to be past through our city, our master table theme created a paper/cardboard Olympic torch. At the site of the flames, paper flames were made containing various themes about the Olympics. They ranged from the economic impact the Games would have on our city, why frog jumping should be an Olympic sport. Beach Party!t's next meeting was a beach party. It ranged from name tags made of paper in shape and works of watermelon art, Beach Boys music plays before and after meetings and beach paraphernalia ranging from beach towels, balloons and water cannons spread throughout the room. For Table Topics, Table Themes Master used beach materials in the room as well as sea shells with subject labels ranging from surfing to nude beach colonies. Well, these are two great ones. that we used. I hope it helps someone. James Ellisor TechOraters ActivismEdit Once, I used some themes from several - Clean:-) I read posted a message, reply post, and then asked the unfortunate speaker to take on the role of first person and respond to the answer. I don't remember the exact topics - one was about censorship on the Internet. Groups .activism offer a lot of interesting discussions. Maybe the recent discussion here of DTM requirements will prove to be stimulating. Jane Jude..... Fortune CookiesEdit One idea someone else suggested during a discussion with a recent training officer I attended was to have a speaker choose a fortune cookie and use fortune as a topic to talk about. After that, the speaker can eat the cookies! - Vincent Lee Gift exchangeEdit We have a kind of gift exchange. The member chooses a wrapped gift from under the tree (the last time it was a sofa), or steals one of the other members. Then the member has to explain why he (she) thinks it's the most wonderful gift in the world. John Fleming, CTM Color Me Pink! Edit on small sheets of paper to write some unusual or very descriptive colors (day-glo orange, pea green, flamingo pink, etc.), make a list of questions along the lines: Tell us why you plan to paint your house this color Explain why all your clothes this summer will be in this color Tell the person to your right why he/she should buy a car in this color. Ask the respondent on the table topics to select a receipt and ask them the next question in the list. You never know what you're going to get. Hint: This helps to encourage someone who is known to have a wild imagination for the first answer. After that, people will get an idea that everything goes on this topic! Chris Copeland, ATM in just three minutes Orit our governor of the area last year presented our club With just 3 minutes to fill the time before the winner of the contest was announced. I'm not sure about the origin of this game. Perhaps other Toastmasters know as well can share interesting and entertaining fillers when judges are out. Just three minutes is very similar to a BBC radio programme called Just a Minute. You can find out more about it here. The rules in just 3 minutes And two teams of three players are pitted against each other. The theme they should be talking about is chosen by the Master in just 3 minutes. The team that will be the first to perform is chosen by the party. Teams nominate the first, second and third speaker. Teams continue to use this order until time is used. The winner of the competition is a team that still speaks when the allocated three minutes are over. A team that doesn't speak can challenge the speaker for various flaws. When the task has been done by a team member, the clock will be stopped until the J3M-Master call is resolved. If the task is successful, the next speaker for a

complex team takes on the subject; In the case, the contested team continues. Mistakes include - Fluctuations - - and, etc. pauses - which are too long or too often Repetitions - the words of the phrases Tautologies - say the same thing using different words - such as me or the next, after that or reason why.... Changing the topic - including not talking close enough to the topic. If a player unsuccessfully challenges 6 times, that player cannot speak or challenge again, and other members must continue without them. We had a lot of fun in just 3 minutes. Sometimes I stopped dead when I realized that I repeated myself and waited for a call! Themed questionsEdit In Rooster Rousers, Toastmaster picks a theme the week before, and the Master Theme table just throws out questions that relate to the topic. So to come up with an example, if Toastmaster chose the Edmonton Transit System as the theme, all the topic issues of the table would relate to the public transportation system in Edmonton, i.e. the typical question might be what would you do to improve Sunday bus service? The number of times the request for table-themed ideas is an indication to me that a large number of clubs don't approach table themes the same way we had as Rooster Rousers do. John Fleming, CTM is back at the top of the resources homepage Define this PictureEdit Cut photos from newspapers or magazines. Do the table theme respondent come up and choose one and tell the club what is going on in the picture. (Of course, no captions are attached to the photos.) Norm Whetzel EPA and Galloping Governors Toastmasters back to the top of the back on the resources homepage Unusual ObjectsEdit Table topics respondents give an unusual object and asked to tell everyone what it is and how it is used. Alternatively, they may be asked to sell the property to the club. Have an object in the bag that the respondent should feel and describe to the club. The club then guesses what has been described. In addition, the respondent can look at the object before knocking it out. This is my favorite quote One of my favorites is to have sheets of paper with a saying or quote. The respondent must explain what a saying or quote means to him. Dear AbbyEdit Give everyone a Dear Abby question and get them to give their advice. They can be polished by the Master of the table themes or real, cut from the columns of councils. Norma Whetzel back to top back on the resources homepage of Book SwapEdit there is a book swap. Do members bring a book they sell to the rest of the club by telling them why they love the book. In the end, the members had their chance. Each member deals for a book that she or she liked best out of explanation. Everyone gets the opportunity to speak and get a new book. Norma Whetzel back to top back into the resources homepage of AuctionEdit To Hold auction. Have each member bring a white elephant from the house to sell or come ready Service. Each bidder from or its point/service. It raises money for the club as well as serving as a fun table theme session. Norma Whetzel go back to the top back in the resources homepage Check CatalogEdit Toastmasters has a table of theme materials in the catalog, including 2 sets of questions/materials for table themes. You can check it out. Norma Whetzel back to the top back in the resources homepage It's not my place of birth! Edit If your club has people born in different areas (and/or in different countries), try: What people think they know about your homeland that's not true? What advice would you give yourself? Dan Goodman back to the top back on the Resources HomePage Editorial OpinionsEdit Read a paragraph from various emails to the editors of a local newspaper and members respond with their opinion. We have a theme for each of our meetings, so one method is to just start thinking about the topic as soon as you arrive at the meeting. Introducing MeEdit We had trouble doing the proper introduction of speakers: they are getting so boring. So I asked the master of the table theme to compose enough themes for the whole club and write each of them on the map. I did an educational session on the introduction and everyone writing information about themselves on the map. Then the master table themes handed out her table themes, and each person handed over her card with her bio-information to the person to her right. Then, in turn, each person introduced the person to her left and her table theme using maps. Everyone got a turn to give a table theme and introduce the other person. (WordSupply) back at the top of the back on the resources homepage of Twenty QuestionsEdit I ran a twenty-question table topic session on Monday. Went down very well. I chose five answers - pen, cell phone, encyclopedia Britannica, computer, information technology. I put each answer in a separate envelope marked 1 to 5. I asked the first speaker to open his envelope. Then we played 20 questions. When the meeting guessed the answer in an envelope, the speaker had to give an impromptu on the subject. The theme was thematic, in that information technology is a concept that binds four early paragraphs together. How to play 20 questions: Elect a questioner (master TT) The questionmaster (PM) has in his mind, a word or more than one word. The SM tells the congregation how many words are in his head. It also says the meeting whether it is animal, vegetable or mineral or abstract, and if the words contain a certain or indefinite article. The meeting can meet with each other and ask questions about the SM. The SM responds Yes or no. There are 20 questions at the meeting to guess the object. Example: pen: mineral, two words, words, article. Britannica encycloide: two words, abstract or plant and mineral. (vegetable paper, ink, mineral). Information technology: Abstract, two words. Erich Viedge go back to the top back on the Resources homepage of Fortune CookiesEdit a couple of ideas that we tried at our club that came up pretty well. Master Tabletopics has each party choose a state cookie from a jar, and provide an impromptu response to the happiness they have chosen. What is my definition? Edit Master Tabletopics provides each participant with a very obscure (but factual) word from the dictionary, and the participant comes up with a convincing definition. Win, lose or draw a different approach to the table theme that I like is a variation of Win, Lose or Draw. Write down a thing, idea, phrase, or whatever for each of your table theme questions. Call one person, show them a thing and give them one minute (or less) to try to draw what represents this thing. Then call the second person to talk for 1 to 2 minutes about what was drawn (they don't know what what you recorded was). If you want, you can have an audience guess what happened. This is a fun way to add a twist to the Theme table. Victor Peters Terrapin Toastmasters Show AppreciationEdit Our club meets in a nursing home that does not charge us anything for renting a room. To express our appreciation to the nursing home, we occasionally collect money from our members for donations. For example, last Christmas season the club held two auctions. Members brought in a point from home - baked goods, little toys, hand gifts, or whatever - and as part of the theme table of each member who brought things gave a step for its item. Then other members bet on items and money raised was donated to a nursing home. It was a great way to raise money and show our appreciation - and it was to give a fun twist to a couple of meetings. Nancie Ryan Business Oriented Toastmasters back at the top of the back in the resources home page of the Group StoryEdit We had a situation today where Topicmaster did not show. I offered to try the group story. We started at one end of the room and advanced to the other end. It was a lot of fun. If you ever get stuck, give it a try. Rick Davis ATM Cincinnati NIOSH Toastmasters back at the top of the resources homepage of zen and art table TopicsEdit Topics Master at our last meeting presented some zen-like themes, i.e. what is the difference between flow, creek and river? Why is the deer on the deer crossing sign along the highway always facing to the left? What is the significance of life? Why are we here? Our club has a lot of fun with them. Sillamint back to the top on the resources homepage Grab BoxEdit My club recently made some unique table themes, and here they are. The first came from toastmaster Magazine. A A brought in a box of about 15 items. When each person was called to do their theme, they chose the item, and gave their subject on the item. How is your sales technique? Edit One of our new members came up with a very fun idea. She started by telling us that she is in charge of marketing to a new corporation, and hires sellers. She asked anyone who called to demonstrate their sales methods and sell the product to an audience. She then handed them an envelope with an object in it. Methods for the TopicEdit table At another meeting, we linked the topic of the table with the educational program. The educational program was about how to answer the topic of the table or reformulate the question without answering the question, but asking your own, or taking the opposite side than you were asked. Every person who made a table theme after this part had to do one of the above. It was a great experience for everyone, and opened our eyes to new ways of answering the topic of the table. Sharon's Last Word Toastmasters back at the top of the back in the resources homepage Word PlayEdit Write words on small pieces of paper. Each speaker has four pieces of paper and make a story using all four words. (You can also request the use of the word of the day.) Variations of the word in order (if the word microscope, then microscopic can be used in stroria). Dave Schneider is back at the top of the resources homepage of Food IdeasEdit The Most Memorable Food Favorite Food Favorite Food The Least Favorite Food Strange Food has ever eaten the worst meal the Strange Place ever eaten by Dave Schneider Make these IntroductionsEdit Take a minute or so to consider major introductions. Then lift each speaker and get them to pull the object out of the bag, and get them to enter what they have extracted. (Vegetables work well.... This is MR. CARROT!!!! Please introduce Mr. Carrot as our next speaker. Not only do people get the practice with introduction, but they get to take home some of the salad.) Dave Schneider GesturingEdit One man speaks and another stands next to the speaker and performs all the gestures. Work on street repairs. The joy of dancing. Fighting a bear at a state fair. Demonstration Tupperware. Rock climbing. Dave Schneider Do you live here? Edit Discuss a strange place to live and defend a place as a good place to live. Next to a nuclear power plant. In the swamp. Down the Grand Canyon. Upper Part of the Matterhorn. Dave Schneider Use questions only during the storyEdit story Describe his first interview. Your best vacation. Three piglets. Goldlocks and three bears. Washington crosses Delaware. Dave Schneider Alphabet soupEdit Start each sentence with a word that starts with a specific letter (first and, then b and then the next person says the sentence with the next letter. Apples are my favorite fruit. Fruit. Better. Can you believe what we're talking about? Don't you think it would be better if we talked about politics? Truth or DareEdit Everyone writes a secret about themselves that no one knows. Each speaker takes one of the notes, reads it and states who they think wrote the note and why. Archaeology for BeginnersEdit Put everyday things in the bag and let each speaker choose a point for discussion. However, year 2525 and orator archaeologist. They will explain their opinion as to what the paragraph was back in the 20th century and how it was used. Dave Schneider Miss This movieEdit speaker chooses a very bad movie that they have seen. Then they have to convince the audience to see it. Dave Schneider I had dinner with the queen ElizabethEdit Every speaker talks about time (real or imaginary, but preferably real) when they encounter a celebrity. Dave Schneider Dr. Phil and OprahEdit Check out THE TV lists to see what the current topics are on OPRAH or PHIL. Each speaker discussed the topic. Dave Schneider Magazine PhotosOrth interesting photos are selected from magazines. Each speaker chooses one at random and discusses what is happening in the picture. For example. A man sits at a table and reads, while another looks out the window. Option #1: Do a volunteer explain why this person would be a good candidate for a toastmaster member and how they would go about persuading them to join. Option #2: Choose photos of plates of food and a dick to explain why it is their favorite food of all time. Dave Schneider Fortune CookiesEdit Each speaker selects cookies, reads the message and discusses how it relates to them. Dave Schneider Weekly World Newslitl Take interesting articles from the weekly tabloids (Weekly World News is particularly good). Each speaker is obliged to discuss and/or defend and/or explain the amazing things reported (a person finds a green ball in a closet... and he eats his dog)! Dave Schneider You Won't Believe It, but Every speaker has to tell an amazing story about himself. Committee members then vote for each speaker for telling the truth or not. The speaker, who deceived most people anyway, wins the topic. Dave Schneider What did you do this time? Edit Bring a video camera to the meeting and select the participants at random. And everyone get up, and, under the glare of the camera lights, grill the dick about the horrible thing he or she did. Interview each member for 1 minute and then play the tape. Dave Schneider's Best Work in the WorldEdit everyone are every member to write down on a piece of paper, a job they will consider the best work in the world for them. Then hand over the documents to the man on the left. Call for members to stand up and explain why working on paper before them is the best job in the world. Or worst Dave Schneider Ideal Educationl list of a number of educational classes Board. Each speaker chooses one of the classes and explains why this class is the most important class to get round out of education. Once used, the class is removed from the board. Dave Schneider AwardsEdit Make a list of achievements (best underwater basketweaver, best nuclear power plant designer, best TV remote switch, etc.) and print them out on a piece of paper. The speaker chooses the award and must reward it to another participant. This member must stand up and accept the award. Dave Schneider TV commercialEdit Collect some products from the grocery store or hardware store. Each TT speaker selects one of the items from the bag and must make a television advertisement on that product. Dave Schneider Instant Toastl!t We're All Toastmasters. Choose the right setting for each speaker and then let them make an appropriate toast for the occasion. For example. You're at a high school reunion. You are asked to make a toast to one of your favorite teachers who is now dead. You are at a political meeting in the city. Visit the U.S. Senator for your party at the meeting and you are asked to make a toast to the senator. Your neighbors next door are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. You're being asked to make a toast to them. Dave Schneider Improvised MurdersEdit Every Man will give one line and will have to weave the story out of it. Here are a dozen different lines of history to use: It was a dark and stormy night as lightning flashed through the window pane..... When the guests heard a noise, they stumbled down the corridor only to discover. The police came and asked everyone.... Fearing for my own safety, I told the police: I couldn't do it because I.... Seeing that now is the right time, the butler came forward and stated..... Old Mrs. Marple didn't think anyone knew about her relationship with the deceased. Then I got up and told the group..... Suffocating and holding her throat, the maid stumbled upon the living room. It was then that the front door swung open and who should intervene, but..... No! It was me who did it because you see a dead man was mine. Surprising everyone, the dead man rose from the floor, looked back at the gathering and said.... Just when everyone felt the mystery solved, the light went..... The policeman then came forward and announced to the guests, with a big smile on his face.... Dave Schneider Famous ValentinesEdit Meeting closest to Valentine's Day: Themes Master brought red carnations. A couple of people were asked to take part rather than individuals. Cleopatra then had to reciprocate and present the carnation to him. The other couples were third graders, constantly tormented each other, but secretly loved loved Other. The couple had just celebrated their 50th Valentine's Day together, fathered by his very young daughter, etc. Dave Schneider Koster storiesEdit Another meeting, Themes Master asked everyone to sit on the floor in the center of the room, or on chairs brought to the center. All the lights were turned off and the flashlight was used to simulate a campfire. The theme master gave the titles and participants told the bonfire story. Dave Schneider Close It! Edit Presumably to get practice at the closing, participants were asked to give a closing speech, briefly described by the Master Themes. Dave Schneider POGSEdit We had an interesting time with a theme table based on those little round discs called POGS. I chose a few of them with distinctive photos, and said that each participant would be from a planet or country with a distinctive coinage. They had to tell us a story about why this image was inscribed on the coin. (i.e. a famous character in history, a notable landmark, etc.) Dave Schneider's Deal with It's We usually link our theme tables to the theme of the evening. Last week the theme of our clubs was working with him. I've been ingingled out on the back of the playing card, which ended with the phrase Deal with it. For example: You enter a room and enter to turn on the switch. Suddenly your hand grabbed six fingers with a fluffy hand that you understand is not a human. Deal with it. Dave Schneider X FilesEdit This week our theme was X Files We were supposed to discuss a script that was bizzare for example: God has a commercial on the first channel. Instant Art CriticEdit I once gave each person a piece of paper on which children drew strange pictures. Toastmasters were one minute art historians and had to discuss the significance of the work. Dave Schneider's penny bag One of our good Table Themes was bringing in a bag of pennies and you had to talk about something that happened in a year that was stamped on a penny, or what you were doing during the year. It's a lot of fun. Dave Schneider JeopardyEdit Make a display board with pockets representing the category of money for the game of danger. Label each pocket with cash value, that is, \$100, \$200, \$300. Place a table theme question in each pocket. At the top of the category, place a common theme for the column. All participants are winners. Reward them each with a mini \$100,000 candy bar. Noah's Ark Edith Noah tries to choose an animal that will take the last two places on the ark. Choose an animal from the bag and, without identifying the animal in the group, try to convince the table Of The Master's Themes (i.e. NOA) that you - and your spouse - deserve the last two places. Some suggested animals: Bear armadillo mouse hippo rattlesnake sloth kangaroo orangutan Roving ReporterEdit Table theme master can act as news anchor calling toastmasters who act as on-site or as a person on the street reacting to the news. It's fun if you're looking for weird headlines or morphing some normal. For example, Toastmaster John Doe, you are in place on Interstate XY where a tractor trailer truck full of quarters has just flipped over and spilled out onto the highway. Give us your eyewitness report. The option would be to choose historical or catastrophic events from past or even potential future events and get their reactions and eyewitness reports on them. Hope and DreamsEdit volunteers talk about a specific resolution they made last year. What resolutions did you make last year and do you follow through on them? What resolutions will you make this year? What did you do when ... Edit Ask Volunteers to talk about what their lives are and what they were doing when an important historical event occurred. Some examples: What did you do when John F. Kennedy was shot? What did you do when the first man walked on the moon? What were you doing during 9/11? What were you doing at a time when the worst natural disaster you experienced hit? Buy My ProductEdit volunteers walk up to the catwalk and randomly pick a product from the paper back or look at a picture of a product that has been cut and mounted on a map. Ask them to present it as a new product that they bring to the market. Explain why viewers will want to buy it. One Table Topics Master brought in a bag of chocolate bars that were re-labeled with new names. Members of the club had a great time, creating marketing spires for their new product and had fun taking home with them afterwards. There was no shortage of volunteers! Thought-provoking questions Are asking thought-provoking questions. Remember your childhood... What did you want to be when you grew up? Who was the person who most influenced your life? Who was the most important person in our lives? Or think about history... Who was the most important man in history? What figure in history have made the most significant contribution to humanity? I want to parachute ! Edit you are in a plane that is struggling with engine problems and it is obvious that it is about to go down. Unfortunately, there is only one parachute on board. Your job is to convince other passengers to give you a parachute. Good luck, there can be very famous or important people on board. 41.246.219.193 11:56, February 17, 2009 (UTC) Jasper This is my workOrthit are the basic qualities required for a particular position? Explain what they are and tell us why it's the perfect job for you. Some job examples: A spokesperson for the important political party Taxi Driver Time in charge of the tender board in the government department Commercial pilot of the trolleybus operator Flight attendant Cashier at Walmart (Variation: If you really want to have fun, think about strange, strange, vacancies.) Ruler WorldEdit Humans are not the only species on our planet. Why shouldn't another species dominate and rule the world? Explain why the next animals should be the next rulers of the world. Cat ants spiders are elephant mosquitoes Rat Snake Tigers etc. Charity BallEdit Last night you met a famous man at a charity ball. Describe your first meeting (imaginary) with someone famous: sportsman Bill Gates Charlie Chaplin Garfield Isaac Newton Spider-Man Albert Einstein Michael Jackson Mike Tyson Ronald Reagan, etc. Plausible explanationEd will ask volunteers to come up with and give plausible explanations and definitions of the meaning of strange words. Some examples: gound, twee, ort, absquatulate, Floccinaucinihilipilification, pandiculation, jillick, bogglybigglyboo, bumpf, eesome. The philosophy of LifeEdit is to give volunteers the name of a cartoon character and then ask them to tell you about their philosophy of life. Nobel Prizelitl How Volunteers to Explain Why They Should Win the Nobel Prize for patience, sense of humor, creativity, innovative thinking, tap dancing, window washing, parenthood, courage, genius IR, calmness, magnetic personality, leadership skills, calmness in crisis, witty retorts/pickup lines, speeches, etc. Magical MomentsEdit Had a huge flash of light and crashing sound in the backyard. When you went to explore, you will find a very hot piece of multicolored stone in a small crater ... Once it has cooled down, you put it in your pocket and as you carry it with you, you will find that it gives you magical powers. Describe how you realized that you suddenly couldn... See through solid objects, walk on walls, become invisible, jump fantastic distances, make things disappear, run faster than a locomotive, hear what animals think, do things levitate, wish yourself specific places, freeze everything with snap fingers, see into the future, get someone to tell the truth. My bestselling Edit has volunteers pull out various book titles and talk about a book they just wrote and which is published tomorrow. Some examples of some genres of the book and possible titles: Romance - Love In the Afternoon and Evening Self-Help - Ten Easy Ways to Get Rich At Home and Garden: Fast Recipes for People Who Can't Cook Fix-It: How to Make a Darn Next to Anything Better Place for Shop Horror: What's Crawled Out of My Bathroom: Lye Dryer Really Eat My Socks? Children's Classics: Little Red BMW Fiction: The Richest Man in Babylon Stories: 101 Gerbilis Encyclopedia: Graffiti Poetry: Humphrey Bogart Funky FortuneEdit Your Great Uncle That You Don't Even Don't has died and leaves all his multi-mille possessions to the heir of a family member who convinces the executor of his estate that they will be the most suitable guardian for his beloved ... Pet gorilla, giraffe, porcupine, 20-foot pink flamingo statue, green 1977 Volkswagen with pink polka dots, museum of alien was figures, collection of top hats, church spires, collection of freedom bell replica, holiday home in Siberia, its stuffed collection of bats. A day in the life... Edit Imagine you're someone you like! Examples: Imagine you're a family pet. Describe yourself and/or your family on a normal day. Try one of them: Parrot, cat, dog, chicken, lizard, snake, pot-bellied pig, bull, turtle, horse, goat, ferret, mouse, hamster. Professions such as ice cream man, child, your boss, your enemy Crisis LineEdit You work on the crisis line. What advice would you give to the person who called with the following question? (Think about the different questions a subscriber can ask - choose a combination of serious and funny questions for a change.) Tell your MindEdit you are about to take a trip and they are overlooked by the flight and have to hit you on another. So, as a courtesy to make your own, the airline updates your first class ticket. You will get on a plane and find yourself sitting, cocktail in hand, next to a famous person with a good opportunity to express his opinion. What would you say? Bill Gates Bill Clinton Madonna Mike Tyson Alec Baldwin Saddam Hussein Alan Greenspan Teddy Kennedy Sandra Day O'Connor Tony Blair Prince Charles Marthra Stuart Bart Simpson George Bush, Fidel Castro Ariel Sharon Osama bin Laden Amazing StoriesEdit There is a speaker to tell an amazing story about himself. Members then vote on whether each speaker has told the truth or not. The speaker who deceived most people anyway wins. Entertainment and issuesDit Give volunteers some unusual tasks. Some examples: You just stopped for speeding. Let's see if you can talk you out of the ticket. Explain why frog jumping should be an Olympic sport. MysteryEdit Announce that one of the members had stolen jewelry from the second floor of the bedroom of his mansion. Call the first participant and give him a role. Ask everyone to protect themselves and then draw a role for the next person and call someone else at random. Gardener Butler TV Repairman Saves Plumber Pizza Delivery Boy/Girl NightWatch Invited Professor Mother-in-Law Double Role PlayEdit Call two volunteers to the chair at once and assign them to each other role. Then give them an imaginary situation and get them to pretend to have a phone conversation about it. For example, one person may be the principal of the school and the other parent calls about child class. Each participant will call a replacement for themselves for the next next Play. World Record HoldersEdit Provide a list of ridiculous world records and every volunteer make one and explain how they became the world record holder in this field. Murder She WroteEdit provide a very general description of the murder and participants explain how they committed it without getting caught. Life-changing experiencecst explain that Toastmasters can have a big impact on a person's life. Ask each member about this participation in Toastmasters. For example: Toastmaster A, why did you stay a member for 32 years? Toastmaster B, what do you like most about Toastmasters? Toastmaster C, tells us about your worst talk experience? Toastmaster D, tell us how Toastmaster's won you in your work? Toastmaster E, tell us why you attended your first Toastmaster meeting and why did you join it afterwards? ... and so on Embarrassing SituationsEdit Provide a list of awkward situations and volunteers make one and explain how they will handle it. The little word FunEdit List four random, unrelated and very different WORDS on each sheet of paper, then ask participants to make one piece of paper and tell the story using the four words they chose. Unusual phrasesDy I used the following four non-modern phrases and asked Talkers to include tem in his speech. It was on the third day that the heat became so intense that the camels suffered from heat exhaustion. If I had known in advance that it would rain so hard, I would never have bothered. It didn't matter how hard I tried, I couldn't get all the monkeys off the bus. I just couldn't understand why there was a Chinese on the roof. Would you work with a saxophonist or a violinist? Edit your company has expanded and your boss wants to hire an extra person to do exactly your job, along with you. Three CVs show exactly the same level of qualification; they are all amateur musicians. They differ only in their chosen musical apparatus: one plays Violin one plays Saxophone one sings What is the one best suited to do your job? CharadeEdit There are people playing a game of silence charades in the Table Topics round in the spirit of working on gestures and facial communication. Make a list of 20-25 words. Give each person five words. The time to go through a stack of 5 words can be from 30secs to 2mins. Have the rest of the club try to guess the word. Use words such as: baseball, dribble, swim, confusion, happy, surprise, phone, etc. Toastmasters Funniest Home VideosEdit have Toastmasters come up and tell about their funniest or most awkward moment, as if they were describing America's Funniest Home Video clip. The book quotes Every participant chooses the number between 1 and 339, and this page in the book Don't forget to sing in the lifeboats of Catrie and Ross Petras, collection Quotes. Works Works many other book lists as well. Save unused topic table questions for emergenciesEdit After meeting, if there are issues master topics prepared, but not to use, the secretary or sergeant at arms of the club can collect them and save them for emergencies when the designated topicmaster is unavailable. To do this, the questions must be complete enough to be used as they are. DebateEdit Two speakers are called simultaneously and they must decide among themselves to take opposing positions on the same topic. It is recommended first to give about a minute to both parties to present their points, and then 30 seconds of rebuttal. (Less time to rebut if more rebuttals are wanted) Who goes first can decide the TT Master or with flip coins. TTM should take care to be sensitive on the choice of topic, so there are equal conversation rooms on both sides of the argument. And debates should not stoop to chaos or get personal or too polarized or rhetorical. But hey, it's just a round table theme! When voting for the best speakers, it may be decided to vote for individual speakers or for the pairs that have spoken. One idea to prevent conflict or harsh feelings between opposing speakers is to get them to move side in their closing statements and indicate where they have agreed to the opposite :) TurncoatEdit In this round, one speaker debates with himself. The topic was given, and the speaker had to take one side of the argument. At a certain time or at the whim of TTM, the speaker should immediately move to the other side. A bell or other sound device can be used. It can be very interesting if the speaker is able to effectively change the side mid-sentence. This round is not recommended for beginners, however! Typically, a minute of unobstructed presentation could be allowed at the beginning to allow the speaker to get into the topic, and the time after that could be thrown open to turncoats according to TTM. In addition, at the end the speaker may be given time to take stock and take the final position without being pinged by TTM. The word JumbleEdit Instead of full-fledged themes, TTM can keep a few cheats having a simple word each. The table topic speaker must choose 2, or more (choice speaker, or TTM decides) cheats, and give a table theme speech that includes those words. We can have Challenge slots in which an advanced speaker can be asked to take up to 4 or more cheats and speech lines out disparate words. This round includes very little brain work on the part of TTM, so highly rated as a face-saver for the hastily appointed role of TTM! Presidential candidate Wid TTM tells the group; You are agitating for a new office. Tell us your position on relevant key issues, and we have to vote for you. Also give us your campaign slogan. Some sample offices: Mayor of Foreign Affairs Whoville to animal animal Planning Committee member Procrastinators International Student Treasurer at Beverly Hills High School Boring Head of inately Mundane Club Chief Bottle Washer President of the Society of Selfless Youth Vice President of the Committee to Eliminate Vice President Vice Chairman of the Anarchists International Committee for Institutional Rules and Subsurders. Edited Murder Mystery with TwistEdit TTM tells the group that Mr. John Doe attended the meeting last week, but because his suit was the same color as the walls, no one noticed him for 2 hours. Mr John Doe was killed immediately after the encounter and every Toastmaster except TTM is a suspect. All evidence of the Crown (or State) is based on what Toastmaster did at the previous meeting and they must stand up and explain the evidence, confess or throw someone else under the bus. At the end of the Topics table, members vote for the best speaker and who they think is the killer. For example: the humorist's joke was so funny, the coroner says he may have died laughing. Word of the day grammar was so hard, Mr. Doe may have died of twisted language. Someone took a picture or used a mobile phone during the meeting, and Mr Doe's pacemaker broke down. The timer is on and off so many times, it has caused an epileptic seizure. Mr. Doe may have died of shame not noticed by anyone, and it was the vice president's duty on membership to welcome and welcome all visitors. Mr. Doe may have died because the speech theme was so frustrating. TTM may compile additional stories about members who were absent the previous week. Charles Kennedy - Rose City Toastmasters Toasty AwardsEdit This Table Topics can become a popular annual event around Oscar time. I bought a cheap microphone at a dollar store and put on a polyester leisure suit from a goodwill store and turned myself into Chuck Winkandorn, the star interviewer. I pretended that I was on the red carpet at the Toasty Awards in honor of the talented Toastmasters who starred in the latest Hollywood blockbusters. Before the meeting I asked a fellow member to take a picture with a flash every time I said the phrase paparazzi go crazy. As every member is called to the front, I make up a tabloid story about them romantically associated with an actor or actress in the news, for example, TIME recently showed a video of you canoodling with Sandra Bullock at the back of a restaurant. Before a member can talk about rumors, I ask them to talk about their latest project. What kind of film, who are co-stars, was the film violent or controversial, etc. Charles Kennedy - Rose City Toastmasters Lost Art ComplainingEdit After Toastmaster for a while and gives scores with tons of positive reviews, we become conditioned by sound and support, which is great, but we lose a very important skill along the way. He's complaining! For this Session Topics table we will revive our ability to effectively complain! Choose number 1 - 10 for your topic to complain. Note: Listening to people complaining about things is quite entertaining and should bring some laughs! 1. Spider crawls on the living room floor. 2. You'll find a \$20 bill at the grocery store. 3. You wait in line to get gas. 4. You get a blender for your birthday. 5. While waiting in line at Starbucks, the child takes the last 3 samples of cakes. 6. You will find a scratch on your car. 7. Someone cuts you off while driving. 8. The seat remains on the toilet. 9. Your boss gives you a new project. 10. Someone is spreading rumors that you are insensitive. John Bridge, DTM, TM2 T-Mobile Toastmasters #5137, Bellevue, Washington. S Sales Themes choose random objects and someone to sell it. This one was inspired by the Wolf of Wall Street in a scene where he said to sell me this pen. You can get them to talk about colors, options, varieties, and how they can be used. The whole selling point is to get people out of their comfort zone and it will certainly do that. Pen, car, table, sofa, pot, computer, watch, flower, television, shampoo example: Pen - This pen will certainly be of great use to you for signing any of your important documents and should be in your pocket or wallet. It can come with red, blue, black or even green ink, yes even green ink! We have many different models that can come in a wide range of colors and even finishes. It can be boring, chrome, steel, black, red or any color option we can think of. I was at the bank yesterday to make a deposit (I love deposits) and I realized I didn't have a pen to sign my deposits, it's never a good situation to be in. Everyone needs a good handle and it can certainly fit this bill for all of you here today. You get the idea, I think, Matt Victoria, Toastmasters Club #6847, Edison, N.J. NJ. toastmasters table topics ideas summer. toastmasters table topics ideas winter. toastmasters table topics ideas spring. toastmasters table topics ideas fall. toastmasters table topics ideas thanksgiving. christmas table topics ideas toastmasters. toastmasters table topics ideas new year's resolutions. toastmasters table topics innovative ideas

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