



Ah counter

The purpose of the ah counter is to note words and sounds used as a „crutch“ or „pause filler“ by anyone who speaks during the meeting. Words may be inappropriate interjections such as „and, well, but, so, you know.“ Sounds may be „ah, um, er.“ You also should note when a speaker repeats a word or phrase such as „I, I“ or „This means, this means.”

Prior to the meeting

Prepare a brief explanation of the duties of the ah counter for the benefit of the guests.

Upon arrival at the meeting

Get a pen and blank piece of paper on which to make notes.

During the meeting

When introduced prior to table topics explain the role of the ah counter.

Throughout the meeting listen to everyone for “crutch” sounds and long pauses used as fillers and not as a necessary part of sentence structure. Write down how many crutch sounds or words each person used during all portions of the meeting.

When called on by the general evaluator during the evaluation segment, stand by your chair and give your report.