

610 THANKING A SPEAKER

For this task, it is suggested that one review the formula for introducing a speaker but in this instance it is performed in reverse.

In thanking a speaker there are two basic elements that one should keep in mind:

1. The material that was covered by the speaker.
2. The personal service or sacrifice the speaker has made in order to make the speech.

It is recommended that the person thanking the speaker look throughout his or her speech for some point or idea that is special, different or extra that makes his or her speech notable. This may be an original thought expressed by the speaker or it may be an original approach to an old subject. However, the thanker should be on alert for something unusual or challenging in the speech which can be used in the speech of thanks.

Do not rehash the talk presented by the speaker. Instead, remind the audience of one thing that was typical of the good quality of the speech and complimentary of the speaker.

Next, in thanking a speaker one should call to the attention of the audience any personal sacrifice or service that was made by the speaker. For example, it is possible that in order for a speaker to meet his obligations, he had to give up some family or personal commitment; he or she may have had to travel some distance; he or she may have had to spend considerable time in researching and preparing his or her speech, etc.

After the thanker has complimented the speaker on a unique idea or thought, then the thanker should indicate the particular sacrifice or effort that was made by the speaker to make the speaking engagement possible.

Therefore, in thanking a speaker a formula is:

1. Thank the speaker for his or her idea.
2. Thank the speaker for his or her personal sacrifice and willingness to give of himself or herself and the time involved.