

The Joke Lesson Plan #2

Handouts:

1. Writing a Witty Joke (1 page double sided)
2. The Joke: Skill Options (1 page double sided)
3. Introducing the Wit in You (1 page)
4. A Witty Intro – Introducing Others (1 page double sided)
5. Top Five (1 page double sided) – optional depending on time

Time	Topic/Skill	Activity	Materials
6:30 5 min	Attendance & payment Introduction to “The Joke” meetup	Give a brief intro about me and the meetup	Attendance sheet
2 min	Intro the Mic	Explain how to adjust the microphone and how to use it.	Mic & stand & amp
5 min	Think Fast – intro to the mic and improv	Each person comes to the mic and speaks on a given topic for 30 seconds	Warm up topics: Everything that is funny about Valentine’s Day topics
3 min	Writing a Witty Joke – Intro to 4 parts to a joke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have each person in the group read part of the handout 	Handout: Writing a Witty Joke
5-10	The Joke: Skill Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exaggeration • Word play • Wit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the 3 exercises (take 3-5 minutes) • Have each person get up to the mic and say her jokes. • Exercise: write two jokes using exaggeration and two using wordplay 	Handouts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Joke: Skill Options • Introducing the Wit in You
5-10 minutes	Break	Bathroom/tea break	
20-30 minutes	A Witty Intro – Introducing Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Split group into pairs. • Have Wit 1 interview Wit 2 for 10 minutes to gather some facts and write 6 setups. • Switch roles and have Wit 2 interview Wit 1 for 10 minutes and write 6 setups • Give wits 5 minutes to write punchlines for their partners. • Have each wit introduce her partner. 	Handout: A Witty Intro – Introducing Others
10-20	(Optional) Learn to create a top five list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain top 5 list • Ask wits to create a list of top 5 reasons their love life is a joke • Each wit stands up and reads her list 	Handout: Top Five_Love Life is a Joke

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Attendance

Have members sign-in and check off payments

About this meetup and me

- started by ZEDS Comic Communications in Calgary in 2010
- they created the meetup to provide a safe and supportive environment for people to improve their writing and comedy skills
- following their format and using their lessons
- Introduce the Rodiola tea – talk about its benefits
- my background

Agenda

- Learn to use the mic
- Think fast warm-up exercise
- Learn the 4-part joke format
- Practice writing jokes using Exaggeration, word play and wit
- Witty Intro – practice introducing someone else using 6 fun facts about that person
- Top 5 (optional) – learn to create a top 5 list using theme Your Love Life is a Joke

The Mic

- The microphone is what separates you from the audience. It helps to centre you when you're in front of a crowd.
- You can use the microphone in the stand or in your hand.
- In the stand, adjust the height so the mic is at chin level. (righty tighty...leftie loosie)
- In the hand, hold your elbow against your body. This lets the mic move with you. You want to make sure you move the stand behind you.
- Practice adjusting the microphone to your height. It should be at your chin level and you shouldn't have to bend or reach up to talk into it.

Think Fast

Let's try a little warm up exercise to give you practice with the mic and get you thinking on your feet. I'll call your name and ask you to come up to the mic and speak about a topic for 30 seconds. Think about what might be funny about that topic but don't stress over it. Say whatever comes to mind. They do this type of exercise in Toastmasters and in improv. Name, come on up. Tell us everything that is funny about...(Valentine's Day topics)

Writing a Witty Joke - handout

Before handing out, ask what they know about the parts of a joke. Read the handout or have others read it.

The Joke: Skills Options & Introducing the Wit in You – 2 handouts

Take turns reading out the handout. Three ways to add humour to your punchline: exaggeration, wordplay & wit
Exercise:

- Complete the 3 exercises: Write two jokes using exaggeration, two using wordplay, and two using exaggeration.
- Take 5-10 minutes or however long they need.
- Read out jokes at the mic.

A Witty Intro – handout

Question: Have you ever been asked to introduce someone to a group at the last minute? Did your heart sink and were you stuck for words? Let's have some fun introducing each other to the group. Break the wits into twos: Wit 1 and Wit 2. Wit 1 interviews Wit 2 for 10 minutes and writes down six facts to create six setups. Then Wit 2 does the same for Wit 1. When they finish interviewing, they have 5 minutes to write six punchlines for their interviewee. Each wit takes a turn at the mic to introduce her partner.

Top Five – handout (time permitting)

Explain how to create a top 5 list. Have wits write their top 5 reasons their love life is a joke.

Wrap-up

Remind members to sign up for the next meetup. Explain what it will be about. Mention any other points, events, etc.