

ACTS OF A WINNING HUMOROUS SPEECH

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<http://www.cityoflondontoastmasters.org>

OLA ARALEPO



Objectives

At the end of the workshop you will be:

- 1. Introduced to the 4- part process – ACTS - of writing a winning Humorous Speech.
- 2. Introduced to the Joke Formula.

A is for Attitude

- What is Your Attitude To Your Environment?
- Humour can transform your attitude.

Humour Can Be Used:

1. As an Icebreaker
2. To Get and Hold Attention
3. To defuse an adversarial attack
4. To clarify obscure or complicated topics
5. To sugar- coat tough/painful issues/topics
6. To relax people – make them feel good/better!
7. As Catharsis

C is for Catharsis





Biggest Block To Humour:

SELF
CONSCIOUSNESS



T is For
Target



Joke Formula: Setup + Punchline =
Surprise!



A Few Joke Devices

- 1. Turn of Phrase/Pun
- 2. Exaggeration
- 3. Understatement
- 4. Irony
- 5. Malapropism

Resource: Mel Helitzer (2005)- Comedy Writing Secrets. Writers Digest Books, Ohio

Contact details: Ola Aralepo
oaralepo@gmail.com; facebook;
LinkedIn; olaaralepo.co.uk

