



Dear Toastmasters!

The 490th meeting of our club was very cool, and on the whole, every meeting is unique on its own! It was the first cool meeting of this season: rather cold and wet outdoors. It was the last meeting of this summer: the future holds for us 3 meetings in the wonderful time of yellow leaf!

Shower rain made some of our members being late for the meeting, and until the last minute we were worrying if someone was washed away by water currents. Fortunately, almost everyone was on time and we managed to begin with just a several minutes' delay.

1. Do you pay attention to the respect shown to you by other people? **Denis Shevchuk**, the **Invocation Master**, gave us a really inspiring greeting, marking the great honor of speaking in front of the audience of Moscow Free Speakers Club. The members of our club are a very intelligent community: educated, friendly and open-minded. Such an audience motivates a speaker to do his best, to develop speaking skills and to perform excellently. Thank you for your good words, Denis!

491st meeting, August 19th, 2010

Quote of this issue:

"To speak and to speak well are two things. A fool may talk, but a wise man speaks."

—Ben Jonson

2. After the invocation, the meeting became really female! Women occupied all the main roles as well as delivered both projects of the day, and they managed their business very successfully.



Lilia Nurutdinova, the **Toastmaster** of the meeting, not only kindly introduced all of our speakers following the good tradition, but also demonstrated a spirit of innovation: it was her, who organized the discussion of the project topics, not the delivery. And the audience had a lot to say! We had only two of the speeches planned, and that gave us some extra time in the first part of the meeting. And this time wasn't wasted. Lilia supplemented the excellent hosting with her brilliant smile. If you're not using your smile, you're like a person with a million dollars in a bank and no checkbook, they say, and Lilia is a real millionaire! Lilia infected everybody with her good mood, and the meeting went on in a very warm atmosphere.

Moscow Free Speakers Club



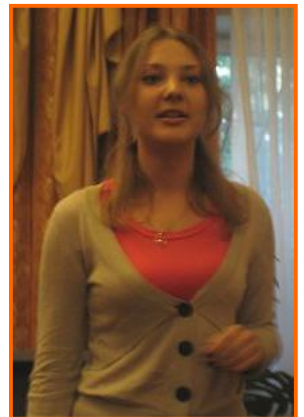
3. Can you always guide the curve of your speech to the right direction, or are you very talkative and lose the idea? **Alexey Eraskin**, the **Word Master** of the meeting, gave us a great example of the purely formed speech without any curve balls thrown. However, a smile is the curve that sets everything straight and helps the speech to come smoothly and fair. And those who spoke were actively using this tool throughout the meeting!

4. Do you think you know everything about the people around you or you can expect some surprises from them? **Anna Triapitsina**, the **Joke Master**, described some unexpected discoveries about people around us.

5. The **Timer** of the meeting **Igor Vinogradov** dispelled the doubts about the importance of his role. He told us the apologue about the value of time. "If you want to understand the value of a year, ask a student who's just failed the exam. If you want to understand the value of a month, ask a mother who's given birth to a child. If you want to understand the value of a week, ask an editor-in-chief of the weekly newspaper. If you want to understand the value of a day, ask a schoolboy one day before his summer holidays. If you want to understand the value of an hour, ask a person who's got stuck in the elevator. If you want to understand the value of a minute, ask

a person who's just missed his plane. And if you want to understand the value of a second, ask a toastmaster who's just been disqualified from the speech contest", - Igor told. This introduction made the members of the club and our guests strongly respect the timing rules of the meeting.

5. Do you have any stereotypes or prejudices? Are you sure Americans are fat, the smiles of Europeans are unnatural or maybe you are sure you can meet a bear on the Red Square? **Eugenia Maseeva** decided to break down our possible



prejudices and told us about her vacation in Lebanon, a real country of contrasts.

Her **3rd project** was really highly informative and very well delivered. Now we know about diverse culture of Lebanon, about its sights to see, its nightclubs and Alpine skiing resorts. Stereotypes are not knowledge, and one should escape using them, Eugenia said. Thank you for the good speech and for the good advice, Eugenia!

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6. Do you resort to the help of tour operators planning your vacation? Are you among that quarter of the total number of Russians who do? Whereas it's no less than 35 million people!



Quite a large market of tourism service, isn't it? The very experienced member of the club **Natalia Sherstneva, CC**, in her **advanced project #3 "Sell a product"** considered this issue from 2 sides: the side of a seller and that of a buyer. Natalia told us about the peculiarities of the work of a tourist agent and advised how to escape unfair tourist services. She thinks that the best way of evaluation of a person is to look at his face and read everything from it. Personal contact helps in haggling with an agent, so that one manages to get a much larger discount on a tourist trip. We'll take your tips on arms, Natalia!

8. On 19th of August **Tatiana Gladychева** had two events at the same time. Firstly, it was her birthday, so she received congratulations from the fellows. Secondly, she made her successful debut in the



role of **General Evaluator**. Tatiana led the second part of the meeting in her own well-wishing style, thanking all the participants and guests in a pleasant way. And everything went like clockwork!

Evaluations:

9. **Nick Sapozhnikov, CC**, was the personal evaluator of Natalia's Sherstneva speech. Nick thanked the speaker for:

+ an interesting contest and investigation that she made about tourist agencies;

+ a good speech structure;

+ good English use.

Nick recommended Natalia to pay more attention to persuasion and to underline the steps she describes.

10. Evgenia Maseeva was evaluated by **Margarita Ryndina, AC-B**. Besides, Evgenia received the additional comments on her speech. The listeners especially liked the following:

+ the fresh idea and not the internet source of the Eugenia's project;

+ very appropriate and successful usage of gestures;

+ attraction of the audience's attention and demonstration of good listener's skills by using references to the projects of other members in her speech.

Margarita suggested to shorten the opening next time and to follow the project's objectives more strictly to achieve a general purpose for 100%.

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11. **Alexandra Borissova**, the **Table Topics Master**, had chosen a very interesting theme “Your home city” for the most interactive part of the meeting. The place, where a person was born, is a very special place. About such places – towns and cities – people write poems and compose songs; and if we were a club of artists, everyone would colorfully depict his native city on canvas. But since we are the members of Moscow free speakers club, every speaker no less colorfully described his native land in words! We found out a lot of interesting facts about such cities as Kazan, Volgograd, Pyatigorsk, Dmitrov and Saint-Petersburg. The winner of the discussion was...not a native of the distant Vladivostok or a resident of exotic Australia, but Denis Shevchuk with the story about his love for Zelenograd. The sense of humor and smile - the symbol of the 490th meeting - helped him a lot! All speakers noticed that their native lands have been changed since they moved, but they love their homes and will always keep special features of the fellow countrymen.

Our Birthdays!

OUR WARMEST
CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR DEAR FELLOW



Ekaterina Sidorenko (August 30th)

Our next meeting is on September 2nd!

The theme of the meeting is **Lyric**, and we are going to hear the speech from the Successful Club Series by Margarita Ryndina, AC-B, the 6th advanced project by Alla Oganova, CC, and the 2nd project by Alexandra Borissova!

See you soon!

Points:

Lilia Nurutdinova <i>(Toastmaster)</i>	9.1
Evgenia Maseeva <i>(Speaker 1)</i>	8.4
Natalia Sherstneva, CTM <i>(Speaker 2)</i>	8.1
Margarita Ryndina, AC-B <i>(Personal Evaluator 1)</i>	8.8
Nick Sapozhnikov, CC <i>(Personal Evaluator 2)</i>	8.1
Tatiana Gladychева <i>(General Evaluator)</i>	8.1
Alexandra Borissova <i>(Table Topics Master)</i>	8.4
Meeting as a whole	7.9