

REQUIREMENT 8

PREREQUISITE

Plan a troop or crew court of honor, campfire program, or interfaith worship service.
Have the patrol leaders' council approve it, then write the script and prepare the program.
Serve as master of ceremonies.

Present your script and prepared program to your counselor.

Tips for Interviewing and Introducing a Guest Speaker

First, have a small notepad and pen with you when you make the call. Call your neighbor on the telephone and ask him politely if you could interview him as part of your Communications merit badge requirements. Explain that the requirements include interviewing and preparing to introduce a guest speaker.

If he agrees to help you, and now is a convenient time, ask him to tell you a little about his background, and take notes. If it's not a good time, ask when you could call again. Do not be afraid to politely ask the person to slow down or repeat a statement if you were not able to write down the information fast enough.

Here are some questions to break the ice and help you prepare an introduction:

What is your full name and professional title?

What are your duties?

What do you like best about your career?

What is the most difficult challenge you face in your position?

Did you go to college or receive special training?

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

Depending on whom you are interviewing, craft your questions accordingly. Based on the person's answers, write a brief, upbeat introduction to the speaker. Practice your introduction several times. When you demonstrate to your counselor how you would introduce a speaker, bring a couple of index cards with notes just in case you forget some detail that you would like to include about the person.

Stand up, go to the front of the room, face the "audience," smile at your counselor confidently, and address the audience. They know you, so keep this informal. Then give a brief introduction of the speaker and sit down.