**Best Man Speech Criteria:**

1. Introduce yourself and your relationship to the groom
2. Thank the groom for choosing you as best man and being a good friend
3. Thank the parents of the bride and all attending
4. Thank the parents of the groom
5. Insert amusing story about the groom -- referencing stages of his life
6. What impact the bride has had on the groom
7. Commenting on the beauty of the maid of honor and bride’s maid
8. The Final toast to the bride and groom

**Maid of Honor Speech Criteria:**

1. Introduce yourself and your relationship to the bride
2. Thank the parents of the bride and groom and everyone for attending
3. Admit how much it means to you for choosing you as her maid of honor.
4. How you and the bride met and a funny story or most "appropriately" embarrassing moment you shared with the bride
5. How beautiful the bride and groom look together and insert a story of what the bride used to share with you about the groom when she first met him.
6. Talk about a funny habit of the bride that the groom will have to live with :)
7. Words of advice to both the bride and groom
8. Toast: wishes you have for the newlyweds (e.g., success, happiness, many babies)

**Wedding Toast Format:**

1. If you are not known to 50 percent of the assembled group, plan to briefly identify yourself and your relationship to the couple before you launch into the toast.

Then start the wedding toast off by offering a remark about the wonderful/touching/elegant/memorable/unique (or fill in your own adjective) ceremony you have all witnessed.

1. Like a speech, a wedding toast has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Don't plan to offer an impromptu wedding toast unless you're very good at thinking on your feet. Instead, well before the wedding ceremony, write down your thoughts about the couple. What have people who love them said about their match? What occurs to you about their union? Do they have shared interests or passions?
2. Identify and articulate positive qualities about the bride, the groom, and the two as a couple as you start to write the wedding toast. If you want to briefly walk down memory lane in your wedding toast, it's ideal to choose a memory that involves both the bride and the groom. Was there anything unique in the way they met? Or their engagement? These can make interesting anecdotes.
3. Essentially, the wedding toast you give should be warm, personal, and brief. If you are a stand-up comedian, insert jokes. If you are not, play it straight. While you may have the urge to entertain, keep in mind that to the bride and groom your words will be remembered forever.
4. Stumped for what to say? The Internet is filled with great [**quotations**](http://honeymoons.about.com/cs/wordsofwisdom/a/lovequotations.htm) that you can use to start off your speech or get inspiration from.
5. Do not give a wedding toast if you're drunk. Period. If the wedding toast is being recorded by a photographer or videographer, visit the restroom before you give the toast to straighten your hair and clothing.
6. Other don'ts: Don't mention previous girlfriends, boyfriends, or spouses in a wedding toast. Don't talk about the cost of the wedding or wedding gifts. Don't talk about future plans the couple may have confided to you. This includes pregnancy and children. And don't make jokes about the honeymoon.
7. Do end the wedding toast on a high and hopeful note. Express all the good wishes in the room for the new couple's happy, healthy, prosperous future.
8. Finally, ask the assembled group to join you in the wedding toast, lift your Champagne glass, and say, "To (name of bride) and (name of groom)...."
9. Let everyone know the wedding toast is complete by adding your favorite *clean* cliché phrase, such as Cheers! or the ethnic Salut!, L'chaim!, etc.

**TIPS:**

1. Keep the wedding toast short, under five minutes.
2. Focus on the couple, and face them when you toast. Avoid talking about your own marriage or relationship.
3. Keep in mind that parents and older people will be present, so don't work blue.
4. Allow yourself time beforehand to rehearse the wedding toast. If you tend to get nervous in front of groups, it's okay to read it from a card.
5. Let your warmest feelings for the couple shine through.

**Eulogy:**

Start by making an outline for your own eulogy writing. There is a lot to decide before starting to write your eulogy.

* **First**, determine if you want your eulogy to be written in the first person or third person. Using either “I” or “your name” will give you the right tone to continue your writing.
* **Second**, determine what you want to say in your funeral speech. Should it be a farewell speech, a preaching speech or just to recall your life.
* **Third**, determine which points you want to emphasize in your eulogy. Is it your hardships, your triumphs or just how your childhood was?
* **Fourth**, determine which part of your life becomes a blooper. Those funny moments could lighten the mood at your funeral.
* **Fifth**, decide if you want to use a computer or just handwrite it. This may sound pretty simple yet it will give your family and friends better comprehension when reading your eulogy.
* **Sixth**, this is not a decision to make. Be sure to make your eulogy optimistic. Being positive will give your family and friends a lighter load at your passing. Remember that your death is sensitive to them.