



You asked your better half to marry you, and she actually said yes, so now you have to give a speech at your wedding reception. Whether it's your first public speech ever, or you're a complete pro, here are some tips and suggestions for what to include in your speech. This isn't the be all and end all of best man speeches, but it's a pretty great guideline. Remember there will be 3-6 speeches on the night, we recommend that everyone keep their speeches to 3-5 minutes, so there's time for dancing later!

1. Thank your guests for coming, and for their gifts.

2. Thank your bride's parents for allowing you to join their family.

3. Thank everyone who contributed to the wedding. Pro tip: ask your bride to write you a list of the important people so you don't miss anyone.

4. Tribute to your parents. They have most likely supported you during your lifetime, and this is your opportunity to thank them should you choose to do so.

5. Thank your bridal party - the lads for keeping you company while you got ready and for standing beside you, and a special mention to the bridesmaids. They've likely been awake since 6am getting your bride ready, as well as themselves, and more often than not they've also helped decorate the reception, all in high heels.

6. Thank and compliment your beautiful bride.

7. Finally, ask everyone to stand and raise their glasses in a toast to your bride.

8. Be familiar with your speech, but don't feel you need to memorise it – cue cards or reading from your phone is fine. If you print your speech, make sure it's in a large, easy to read front - size 14 Ariel or Times New Roman are good - and every couple of lines alternate the text colour from black to blue so you can look up at the guests and not lose your spot. You're currently reading Size 16, Times New Roman, Bold.

9. Make eye contact with everyone, and remember to smile. You'll find it's infectious.

If you're struggling or need a hand, don't hesitate to contact me :). Good Luck! Scott Phillips - Professional MC and Registered Marriage Celebrant Email: scott@masterofceremoniessydney.com Phone: 0412 996 354