Chapter 4: The Art of Compering

Ice Breakers | Q 1 | Page 122

Read the given words and share with your friend what comes to your mind.

ANCHORING	COMPERING

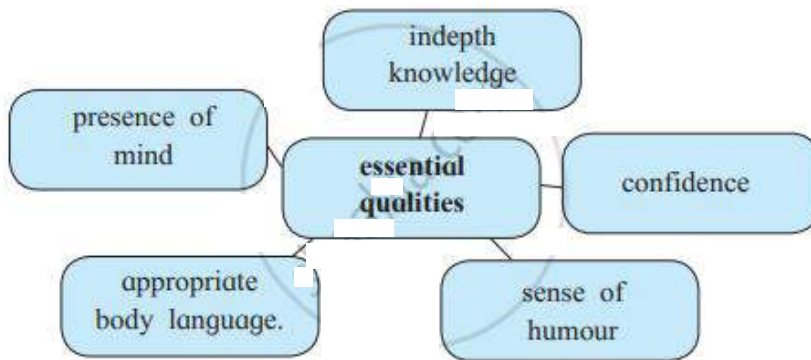| HOSTING PROGRAMMES	PUBLIC SPEAKING

SOLUTION

i. **Anchoring:**
Television programs, news debates, a radio jockey.

ii. **Compering:**
Prize distribution, annual gatherings, product launch, fresher's welcome party, wedding, birthday party, anniversary ceremonies, award shows.

iii. **Hosting programs:**
Talk shows, game shows, quiz shows, reality shows, fashion shows, open mic events.

iv. **Public speaking:**
Motivational speaking, public meetings, legislative assemblies, public addresses, speeches and elocution, storytelling, standup comedy.

Ice Breakers | Q 2 | Page 122

Go through the following web that highlights the essential qualities of a compere. Discuss with your partner the essential qualities and also the precautions that a compere should take while compering a program.

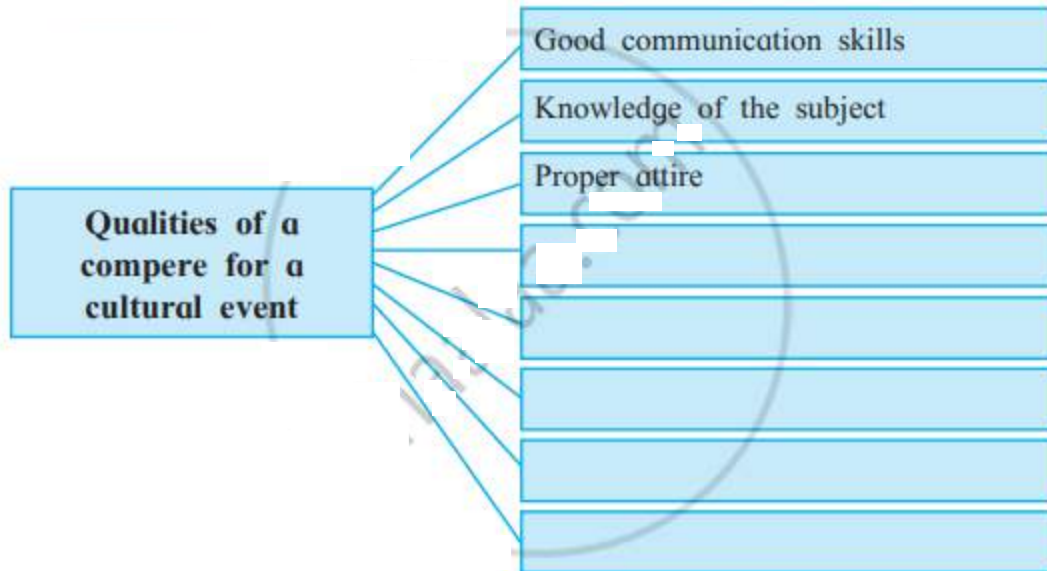**Precautions to be taken :**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

The precautions to be taken are:

i. A compere should always be in control of sentiments and avoid getting carried away by emotions.

ii. A compere should always keep a check on the choice of words and bear in mind at all times the tone and mood of the event.

iii. A compere should engage in light-hearted humour and refrain from making any demeaning comments for the sake of being funny.

iv. A compere should also be attentive to the audience's demands in a way that the audience never feels uncomfortable and detached.

v. A compere should always be aware of the schedule of the proceedings and control the length of the event as deemed necessary.
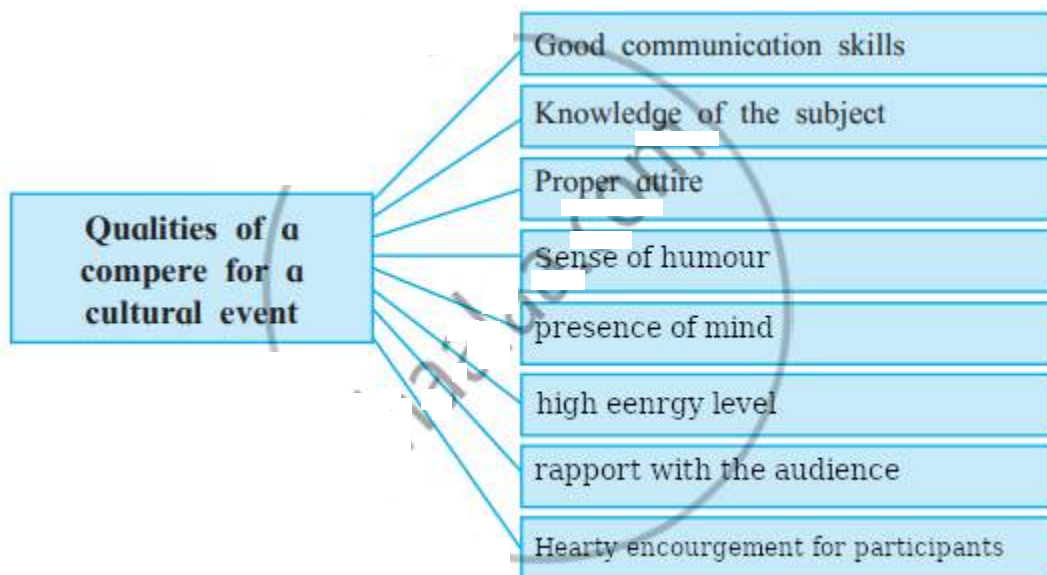
BRAINSTORMING [PAGE 126]

Brainstorming | Q (A1) | Page 126

Imagine that you wish to organize a cultural event at your college. Prepare your own web-chart to indicate the qualities that you expect to have in a compere.

Good communication skills

Knowledge of the subject

Proper attire

Sense of humour

presence of mind

high eenrgy level

rapport with the audience

Hearty encourgement for participants

Brainstorming | Q (A2) (i) | Page 126

Imagine that you are a compere of a 'Prize Distribution Ceremony' of your college. Write a script for the same.

You can take the help of the following points.

1. Introduction – A brief introduction of the programme / function / show
2. Welcome speech – Welcome to all guests. Felicitation – felicitation of the guests (the principal, vice-principal, etc.).
3. Lighting the lamp
4. Welcome song

5. Main events
6. Vote of thanks

Entry 1:

A very good evening to everyone present at this ceremony. Let me welcome you to this magnificent evening of felicitation. We have gathered here to celebrate our achievements from the past academic year. Let's honour and celebrate the hard work of our fellow college mates and return home inspired by their success. As you sit back and admire these achievers, we guarantee you a fun-packed evening with a line-up of awesome performances.

But before we begin, let us welcome amidst a huge round of applause our beloved principal, Dr. Shastry, and Vice-Principal Dr. Hegde on stage. With their permission, let me invite you on stage, India's bestselling author and alumnus of our college Mr. Ramamoorthy. This thunderous applause is a testimony to how dearly we love you here, Mr. Ramamoorthy.
I request our Head of Electrical department, Ms. Shobhna Saxena to present a bouquet of flowers to Mr. Ramamoorthy. Keep the applause going, folks! I request our Head of Mechanical department, Mr. Rajeev Mehta to present a bouquet of flowers to Dr. Shastry and Dr. Hegde.

As goes the age-old tradition of Ramasagar Institute of Technology, we will now light the auspicious lamp and flag off the event. I request Mr Ramamoorthy to do the honour, please.

Entry 2:

We are all set to commence the annual prize distribution ceremony for the year 2019. Are you ready?

Let us welcome on stage, Sneha and Rucha from third-year electrical engineering branch, who have made us proud time and again with their achievements in Kathak. They will be performing a duet dance on a welcome song. Put your hands together for our graceful duo, Sneha and Rucha!

Entry 3:

What a fabulous performance. Keep applauding! That performance just set the tone for the evening, didn't it?

Now, we move onto our first set of prizes. Let me call on stage again, head of the mechanical department Mr Rajeev Mehta to present the prizes for achievements in the mechanical department. These students from the mechanical engineering branch are the respective toppers from first, second, third and final years. Can we have these students on stage, one by one, as I call out their names? Show your support for your buddies. Give it up for Abhishek Thakur, Jayesh Patil, Sneha Ratnasubhash and Saurabh More.

The next prize from Mechanical engineering department goes to team MechaniKa for their exceptional work with the Formula one car prototype. MechaniKa's entry to last year's SMAE competition won a gold medal and a great reputation for our college. How befitting for the team to receive the prize from their mentor and guide, Mr Rajeev Mehta! Give a huge round of applause for Team MechaniKa.

How about the skit that won the internet? Let's relive the famous viral spoof on the Cinema Sholay, by the students of the third year, Civil Engineering branch. Give a big round of applause for the 'Sholayers'.

Entry 4:

No wonder that act turned out to be an internet sensation. After this super hilarious performance, it's time to felicitate the students of Civil Engineering branch. Let me call on stage, head of Civil Engineering department, Professor T.N. Pandey to present the prizes.
These students from the civil engineering branch are the respective toppers from first, second, third and final years. Can we have these students on stage, one by one, as I call out their names? Welcome our achievers amidst huge round applause. Surbhi Chauhan, Rahul Sangle, Jigna Rawat and Akshay Marathe.

The next prize goes to our final year civil engineering student, Ravi Sawant, for his concrete mix design that yielded the strongest grade concrete ever achieved in an Indian laboratory. Give a huge round of applause. Ravi, you have really made us proud!

Do I see the energy levels dropping? No, this isn't acceptable, you better buckle up because next on stage is the 'HipHoppers' dance crew. Brace up for a groovy dance routine from the final year mechanical engineering students. Their radium laced outfits and flashy props will give you goosebumps. Scream out your love for the HipHoppers!

Entry 5:

Once more, once more! What an exhilarating performance. Of course, we all want to see it once more! Sadly, we are running short on time. It is now time to move on to the next segment of prizes. Let me call on stage, head of the electrical engineering department, Ms Shobhna Saxena to present the prizes for achievements in the electrical engineering department.
These students from the electrical engineering branch are the respective toppers from first, second, third and final years. Can we have these students on stage, one by one, as I call out their names? Join your hands together for your fellow classmates. Come up on stage Tanay Sankhe, Revati Gujar, Puneet Pandey and Rahil Kazi.

Now can we have on stage, our guest of honour, Mr Ramamoorthy to present 'Student of the year' award? This prestigious award is awarded to the student, who leads by example. The student of the year must be an all-round achiever in studies, projects as well as extracurricular activities. Only the best deserve this one.
Let me ask the students. Who according to you is the student of the year, twenty nineteen?
Is it Akshay? Is it Rucha? Or is it Ravi?
Yes, you guessed it right; it is Ravi Sawant from final year, civil engineering branch.

Entry 6:

And with this, we come to the end of this memorable evening. It was indeed fulfilling to halt for a while, look back at our achievements and feel proud of what we have done. Heartiest congratulations to all the winners.

Entry 7:

Finally, let me extend my vote of thanks to the honourable guests who spared their valuable time and graced the event with their presence. We are also grateful to the co-

ordinators and organizers of the event. Let me offer a special vote of thanks to all the performers who lit up this evening. And last but not least a big thank you to the audience, who are the lifeline of this reputed college. Thank you, dear students!

Mass media events often need comperes. Find out the area or sector in which a compere is a must. Write about the special skills needed to take up compering as a career and give some clues about how to acquire these skills.

SOLUTION

These are the areas or sectors where comperes are always in great demand:

Showbiz or show business, education sector, retail industry, broadcasting sector, hospitality, event management, and catering business.

Given below are the special skills needed to take up compering as a career. Thorough knowledge and understanding of various kinds of events, good command over language, pleasant personality, good fashion sense, knowledge of grooming, developing, and maintaining contacts with key people in the events industry, documenting testimonials from credible people.

A compere can acquire these skills by working relentlessly in the following ways:

i. A professional compere should socialise often and focus on building a network of people.
ii. It is important for a compere to constantly work on his diction and vocabulary.
iii. A compere should make occasional courtesy calls to industry professionals.
iv. A professional compere is expected to rehearse and prepare well for an audition.
v. Social media profiles of a compere should be updated with the latest and relevant work.
vi. A compere should document pictures and videos from past events and build a portfolio.
vii. A compere should groom well and maintain a sharp look at all times.

Make a list of functions/events/programs/activities organized in your junior college. Choose three events and plan a program schedule of your own. Prepare a script as well to show the associating role of the compere for a particular event. Make your own sequence and design a template for the same.

Do it Yourself.