

Cric? Crac!

Cric? Crac!.....Feedback

In Haiti, the storyteller calls out “Cric?” (pronounced CREEK)) when he or she has a story to tell. The audience responds, “Crac!” (pronounced CRACK) if they want the storyteller to begin. *Cric? Crac!* ... Feedback sessions provide an opportunity for members to practice new stories and improve their storytelling skills. At each monthly meeting members may sign up to host a meeting for up to five other storytellers in their home. Each participant in the feedback session will be given time to tell a story and the opportunity to receive constructive feedback from the rest of the group. The story will be timed to give the teller an idea of its length.

Hosts/hostesses provide snacks, coffee or cold drinks. A good time to hold a Cric? Crac! Session is the Saturday afternoon or an evening prior to a Story League meeting. Sessions last approximately two hours and are held on a day and time convenient for the host/hostess. Members hosting the feedback session must provide directions to their home at the Story League meeting the month preceding the feedback session, and should report back to the President of the League so the feedback sessions can be expanded and improved.

Building trust and respect are essential to the feedback process. The main purpose of the Feedback session is to give support and encouragement to each other. When sharing personal stories, all conversations remain with the group. Nothing discussed during the meeting are to be shared outside of the group. All stories belong to the person telling the story.

Participants are encouraged to follow the framework below to facilitate the Feedback sessions.

1. WOW’s - Group gives positive comments about the story and presentation. Use “I” statements. Be specific – “I liked how you began the story.” “I liked the way you used different voices for each character.”
2. Group asks questions of the teller –e.g. “What did you mean by...?” “What happened before or after...? Could you explain more about....?”
3. Teller asks for specific feedback or questions of the group – e.g. “Could you discern the difference between the various characters?” “Did you understand the part about...?” “Was I too fast or loud enough?”
4. Suggestions for improvement or changes if requested by the teller. Teller should feel free to accept or reject the suggestions.