

Anticipation

ANTICIPATION is anticipating the key word, predicting accurately that the next word of the question will be the key word. Why anticipate? If you can tell that the next word of a question will give it away (by the key word), then you can interrupt just before the quizmaster says the key word, but late enough that he does not have time to stop before he says at least the first syllable of the key word.

This means that you will interrupt before you know what the question is! If you can learn to anticipate accurately, you obviously will answer more questions than a quizzer who cannot anticipate.

Learning to anticipate accurately takes hours and hours of practice. Today, when you first start trying, you will likely find it frustrating, and may feel like you can never learn how. That is because anticipating well is not easy. It is very difficult. It is the mark of the expert quizzer.

Before you can successfully anticipate, there is one thing which is absolutely essential--you must know the content! For you see, to interrupt successfully, you cannot afford to take the time to decide if you know the answer--you must interrupt on the question only. That is, you must interrupt the moment that you recognize the question, or in the case of anticipation, the moment before you recognize the question. So, until you have thoroughly mastered the content, (that means you should know at least 90% of the answers, and eventually 98% to 99%), you have no business trying to anticipate.