

Pet Peeves: (Just a little list ☺)

Below, you will find some of my biggest all-time pet peeves; no thick sarcasm has been utilized for this purpose. Here is something to think about and possibly avoid in Mrs. Comp's tiny universe. The alternatives have been provided! This was done in part as a little rant, but I find it humorous and poignant-maybe little life lessons to help you!

If you want the short version: Be yourself; have a mind and a voice, be good to all people, have manners, I expect you to be real, own up to truth, especially regarding yourself.

- **Not putting your names on work: this is just common sense, right?**
- **Not following instructions or asking me one minute later what you need to get out or do: LISTEN; FOLLOW DIRECTIONS-problem solved!**
- **Seeing you chew your gum like a cow or smacking it: *keep it quiet and in your mouth closed and chewing nicely.***
- **Throwing your trash, even the smallest wrapper, on our nice floor and failing to put it into a trash can; *get out of your seat, walk over to the trash can and place it nicely into the receptacle. Clean up after yourself.***

- **While we're on the subject, let's talk about manners and just overall etiquette:**

-say "thank you" when someone hands you something or gives you something-whatever it may be; "please" is *always* a magic word.

-Cover your mouth when you sneeze, cough or burp-an "excuse me" is always nice.

-When someone says "hello", "how are you doing" or "good morning", respond back.

-Use appropriate language-enough said!

-Keep your hands to yourself! NO throwing objects-if someone wants to borrow a pencil, stand up and hand it nicely to them in their hand.

-Berating others or not giving proper acknowledgement of work done: *If people do great things or try something, applaud or congratulate them.*

-Learn to give a good handshake; always look people in the eye.

-Hold doors open for people, especially your teacher who is walking with a plethora of materials.

-Talking to someone else while another person is talking-LISTEN; you might learn something.

-Sit in your desk like you're interested and having the time of your life; you may be tired, but it is not your bed.

-Don't ask for food, rewards, nap time or state changes: *these are a privilege, not a right.*

- Putting your head down during a film, presentation or lecture or just doing something completely different like drawing, doodling or writing: *keep your head up-your classmates and I deserve your undivided attention.*
- Walking in class late, not having your materials or supplies and then asking me to go get it in your locker or car: *COME PREPARED, ON TIME, READY TO ROCK!*
- Secretly hiding your Ipod and listening to it in class utilizing one ear phone: *keep it put away unless I say you may use it. Secretly hiding anything-food-whatever-put them away and not in your pockets or hoodies.*
- Your cell phone goes off and you actually answer it, you are texting secretly (even if you can do it without looking): *keep phones on silent and put in your back pack or bag. Simple enough.*
- Coming into the classroom screaming, yelling, hugging as many people as you must, running up and having a fit in front of a friend, jumping on someone, hurling your backpack or any other person or object across the room, and throwing people to the ground is harmful to others, annoying and loud: *walk calmly into the class; say your peace with ease and comfort and find your desk. Incessant, unnecessary NOISE POLLUTION will not be tolerated and you will be asked to re-enter the classroom.*
- Packing up early and lining up at the door like a bunch of cattle: *until we are done, I do not want you putting up your readings or materials; there may be times when class gets over with a minute left-please stay in your general desk vicinity.*
- Not taking any notes: *take them-if you need help, I can give you some tips.*
- Not using your student calendar: *write down your HW and use our web page to help you, especially when you are absent. You may need to see me for handouts or other instructions.*
- Not using the resources allocated to you: *Mrs. C has spent numerous hours preparing resources for you to use-try the Delicious or Diigo account on the webpage or other handouts she provides-they are there to help and guide you.*
- Not seeing your teacher when you need help or guidance: *this is the most important, so listen up: I am here for you; I am here to help you learn, so never hesitate to come in and ask for help-advocate for yourself.*
- Side-talking and personal/environmental distractions: *do I need to say more? Be attentive to me and to each other. Ignore the lawn mower; if someone breaks wind, we don't need to shout it out on a bull horn; if you have something important to say that can't wait while I or*

someone else is talking, by all means, share. If not, then know you are being rude and inconsiderate and stay quiet.

- Not being prepared or focused from task to task in class-this includes turning in homework: *transitions should be done with ease, swiftly, orderly, and quickly; stay on task-let's move on efficiently.*
- Having to wait for you to start class: *the bell rings, you are under the learning spell and Mrs. C's wonderful teachings.*
- Walking through the halls talking loudly: *be quiet when we go to computer labs as other classes are in session.*
- Checking grades, emailing or surfing the net while doing an in-class activity in the computer lab: *Stay on task; get some work done.*
- Not showing up for group presentation days, or days that you sign up to do something: *there are other people relying on you to do your part-thus, you may forfeit your grade. Be there unless there is a dire emergency or you are too sick. Contact me and your group to let them know.*
- Using our class time for your doctor/dentist or other appointments: try to schedule these outside of our class time or during another teacher's ☺.
- Lack of effort put into work/quality has gone out the wayside; illegible, torn or crumpled paper, ripped out of notebook with perforated edges, no time spent completing the work-to say the least turning in crap: *put some heart into your work; be proud of what you turn in-make sure it is presentable; you may have it handed back to you to redo.*
- Shouting out answers: *you will be ignored unless you have raised your hand and been called on. Do not shout out unless I say otherwise. This is not an auction.*
- Being done with a group activity five minutes after we have started; having one person do all the work; not having people participate in the discussion and monopolizing the conversation: *if you are done quickly, you have not spent the adequate time thinking critically about the issue and Mrs. C will have to intervene and push you in a direction. Do your share in all group work; have a voice; and remember for those of you who like to talk and talk and talk, there is a time and a place—if you have to hit a certain number of words a day, then practice spreading it out across the day. Challenge one another. Push for extension of thought.*
- Giving Mrs. C hard time-about homework, a reading, what have you: *Be cool; she always welcomes your input and suggestions, but your sole job, for now, is to be a student.*
- Not being your wonderful, unique self: *let your individuality shine! Be who you are and have integrity. Respect yourself!*

- Not thinking for yourself, keeping an open mind, sharing your voice, or learning: *grow in knowledge, develop those skills-find your own voice! I respect it, value it, and welcome it. Start to see the world with a discerning eye-question, gain insight and opinions-challenge your thinking!*
- Bad attitude and drama: *Leave it at the door! Positivity goes along way.*
- Dishonesty or plagiarizing: *I would rather you tell me the truth, no matter what-I'll respect you more for it.*
- Disrespecting, bullying, or making fun of others: *I will nip this in the bud; we want to foster an environment that shows reciprocal respect for one another-that doesn't mean agreeing with each other, but there must be R-E-S-P-E-C-T! On that same line, get to know as many people as you can; you never know what you're missing out on if you don't talk to others.*
- Not trying, saying "I CAN'T", letting fear or doubt distract you: *"The most powerful agent of change is a change of heart."-Gil Atkinson. Trust that you are capable and that there is something in you that you have yet to tap into. Never underestimate what you can do. You either do or you don't; if you try then you are on your way to improving and growing. There's something to be said for work ethic; budget your time, organize yourself, place priority upon the things you do. If you need help with organization skills, I'd be happy to help.*
- Not making mistakes: *learn from them, improve. You have every right to show that you can do better. You are always reworking what you know.*
- Not editing or proofreading your work (this includes blogging): *We will spend a great deal of time talking about the editing process. You do yourself a disservice by not looking through your work more than once. Spell check is not editing.*
- Treating subs with disrespect and not following the class expectations we set: *same rules apply when a person is giving their time to help us out, especially to me.*

Above all, ENJOY LIFE! Don't take it or yourself too seriously. There is much to live and be thankful for in this crazy world. Appreciate the little things and live the life you desire.

"What will you do today that will matter tomorrow?"-Ralph Marston