

What to do when technology gets in the way

So it's 10 o'clock at night and you're trying to print out a paper that's due for class tomorrow. Suddenly, the printer breaks, runs out of ink, the dog pulled it off the shelf & broke it or a gang of hit men cut all power to your house and now you can't print anything or go online.

Whatever should you do??

Well, let's forget the obvious question of why you waited 'till the last minute to do your work or print this paper in the first place; more importantly, why a gang of hit men is after you? Let's ignore all of that and find the solutions to your problem.

- 1. Email the document to a friend and ask them to print it out for you.**
 - a. But I don't know their email address S Text them and get it.
 - b. But I don't know anyone with a cell phone or Snap - Haha, now I KNOW you're lying
- 2. Put the document on a flash drive. When you get to school the next morning you can always go to the school library and print it out before class.**
 - a. But that costs money and I don't have any! – You don't have 5 or 10 cents? Really?
 - b. But it's lots of pages and will cost more than that. – Better get to beggin for it
 - c. But I didn't even know the school has a library – Surprise, they do
- 3. Take the flash drive to another teacher and ask them to print it.**
 - a. But I don't know any other teachers. – Really?...ya got 7 or more...pick one
 - b. But they won't do it for me. – Then ya better resort to one of the other choices
- 4. Take the flash drive to a neighbor and ask them to print it for you.**
 - a. But I don't know my neighbors-Now, that's just sad...BUT this a great time to meet them
 - b. But I live in a sketchy neighborhood – All the more reason to work hard, get your work done on time and get that diploma so you can get the heck out of there
- 5. The public library is a great place to print documents?**
 - a. But...wait...those still exist? – Yes oh wise one, they do
 - b. But I don't have a car, how to I get there? – Walk, ride a bike, get a friend to take you
- 6. Still got that flash drive? Good, take it to FedEx Kinkos and print it there. They're open 24 hours.**
 - a. But I don't have a car and cant get there – Refer to ANY other solution
 - b. But it cost money and I can't afford it – again...refer to ANY other FREE solution
- 7. I'm sure you have a web based email account (Yahoo or Gmail type email) you can email the document to yourself then check the your email from another computer and print it from there.**
 - a. But Internet is down. – Refer to #2
 - b. But I don't have an web based email account – Refer to #2
 - c. But I don't know how to attach a file to an email – Ya better learn...and fast.

Here's the bottom line

1. Work is due at the beginning of the period on the day it's due. NOT the next day. NOT the following week. THAT DAY. PERIOD.
2. If you have a 504 or an IEP these are real accommodations and I fully respect that. However, they don't give you the right to turn your work in whenever you want. It also doesn't allow you to turn in all of your work at the end of the nine weeks.
 - a. Also, you can't pick and choose when you want to use your accommodations. Don't try to use the 504 as an excuse to turn this one project in late because you forgot to do the work.
3. The fact that YOU waited until the last minute to do the work or print it, only to realize that the printer is out of ink is not MY problem.
4. An email from your parents explaining how the printer broke does NOT excuse the fact that YOU waited until the last minute and will NOT get you any grace from me.
5. Serious students will plan ahead and get the work done. Serious students have a great understanding of how complete work in spite of unforeseen problems...and they do it right.
6. Notice that every excuse above starts with the word "but". That's because it's all I hear from students who do just that...make excuses. Don't make excuses...show me results.
7. What I DON'T care about:
 - a. Your computer/online/technology problems
 - b. Your printer problems
 - c. How creative your excuse is
8. What I DO care about:
 - a. Making you a better person
 - b. Seriously, why is that gang of hit me is after you?
 - c. Making you take responsibility for your actions (or inactions; whichever the case may be)
 - d. Getting YOU to solve your own problems and stop blaming others for them
 - e. Holding you to a deadline (cause that's what the real world is ALL about)
 - f. YOU and your well being