Multi-Literacy Memes and The Writing Center

Travis Sidak
What is a Meme?

- A meme is a picture accompanied with humorous / ironic / sarcastic text.
- The most popular ones are widely recognized on the internet and feature an iconic picture.
- Many meme feature pop culture references.
- The most effective memes are ones that immediately convey a certain emotion, problem or mood which can be applied to a variety of situations.
Welcome to the Matrix of higher education. It may seem like a strange place, but have no fear; there are people just like you who want to help you - that is of course if you want the help. There is a Tutoring Center at your university where students like you work with you to find the way. No red pill required.
A lot of students are wary to share their work with others, especially their peers. But rest assured that tutors won’t ridicule your work and they will always point out your strengths as a writer as well as what you need to work on. Tutors are not your superiors, they are fellow students who share your feelings of doubt or inadequacy in academic settings.
Anxiety caused by an assignment is unwarranted without an outside opinion. The Tutoring Center is a resource that all students can and should use when they are having trouble with an assignment. Whether the problem is producing ideas for a topic, organizing these ideas into a coherent essay, asking for confirmation or simply looking for reassurance, the Tutoring Center has a helpful staff that is dedicated to assisting you in any way we can.
Let's face facts – we aren’t always right. Why find this out after you’ve received your assignment back from your professor? The Tutoring Center will go over the assignment’s criteria with you to ensure you’re on the mark which will save you time and disappointment.
Oftentimes, students come to the center expecting the tutor to simply edit their errors. Unfortunately, their essay may have higher order concerns that need to be addressed first. Tutors are not editors; we are peers that offer a new pair of eyes to a text and a new set of ears to talk about ideas. Our goal is to give students the tools they require to become better writers, rather than act as crutches that lead to dependence.
That being said, English is a tricky language filled with odd rules that can be confusing, especially for EAL (English as an Additional Language) writers. Tutors can point these idiomatic phrases and grammatical rules out and explain why they function in this way. With continuous tutoring these rules will become internalized and students can identify when they have made a mistake themselves and rectify it.

**However...**

*THEIR ISN’T A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN*

*THERE AND THEY’RE*
A writer may find that they work especially well with a certain tutor – great! Working with the same tutor on an assignment can be economically advantageous because they will already know what the assignment is, and what you were working on in the previous session. This way, introductions can be side-stepped because a rapport is already established.
We all know that student finances are tight, so we are pleased to inform you that the Tutoring Center is a free program offered by the University! So there’s really no reason not to take advantage of the service.
We understand that things come up - if you are unable to attend your scheduled meeting, please let us know. Your spot could be filled by another student in need of tutoring and your tutor will greatly appreciate it!
Works Cited


