

TOP TEN TIPS FOR TUTORS

1. Be prepared

I took a risk coming to this workshop. Don't waste my time and interest by fluffing around because you're not prepared. Have a plan and be ready to implement it.

2. Have a plan B + C

Have some 'just in case' ideas ready in case you have to ditch your plan due to equipment failure / a different demographic than you expected / only a couple of people or too many people turn up.

3. Be early so you are ready to start on time

Have the workshop space (and you) ready before I arrive. If you're not running around setting up tables you'll be more relaxed and have time for an informal chat / conversation with me when I arrive.

4. Show, don't tell

'Chalk and talk' went out of fashion before I was born. Most people my age learn best with a combination of techniques. Provide as much hands-on experience as possible and if appropriate, use handouts, DVDs, images, music and other tools that engage different areas of my brain and body.

5. I don't bite

I'm not scary - I am scared! I don't know anybody here and I'm worried that my work isn't going to be up to the same standard as everyone else's and I don't know if you're going to be any good and maybe no-one will like me. I have placed myself in a vulnerable situation by showing up, that's why I might seem a bit 'spikey' – my defenses are up. Be gentle. Be genuine. Be interested. Let me open up in my own time.

6. Your wisdom and advice is welcome but let me learn from MY experiences

I know that you know heaps more than me. That's why you're the tutor. It's important that you give me a rough sketch of who you are as it will help me trust what you are telling me but don't spend too much of the workshop talking about YOU. The workshop is about ME.

7. Give me the opportunity to show you what I know

One of the reasons I came to this workshop is to have my experience / work / talent validated by you and my peers. Provide opportunities in the workshop for me to be a STAR.

8. Don't ask me if I'm dead!

Don't expect me to show my enthusiasm on my face. High school is brutal and has trained me not to give much away as that makes me vulnerable. The fact that I'm here, as a willing participant, should be enough to tell you that I'm interested.

9. Give me something to take home

Some kind of handout that either covers the workshop content, or has 'homework' or even just a list of URLs or industry contacts is appreciated. It's kind of like a souvenir of my experience and might just be the thing I need to prompt me to keep developing and practicing and learning.

10. Finish the workshop on time

My mum gets cranky if she has to wait in the car too long and that *really* doesn't end my workshop experience on a positive note.

*If you require any more information regarding this fact sheet please contact Youth Arts Queensland
on (07) 3252 5115 or email info@yaq.org.au.*