**Best Blogging Practices**

* **Never offer any personal information** including your last name, contact information, home address, phone numbers, school's name, e-mail address, last names of friends or relatives, instant messaging names, age, or birth date.
* **Assume what you publish on the Web is permanent.** Anyone on the Internet can easily print out a blog or save it to a computer.
* **Avoid trying to "outdo"** or compete with other bloggers.
* **Keep blogs positive** and don't use them to bully the other bloggers or others.
* **Stay on topic** by replying to the original thread or commenting/questioning others who have. (Tip: If you comment on someone else’s comment, be sure to refer to the blogger and/or specific content.)
* **Be clear and concise** as most people won’t read a comment that is too long or confusing.
* **Good comments** add to their readers’ understandings.
* **Back up your opinions** by explaining or providing references/research.
* **Communicate** using appropriate language, good grammar, and correct spelling. (Tip: Read your comment **out loud** before posting.)