# Netiquette for international Online Discussions

**Communication via digital media sometimes seduces us to forget our good manners. The word netiquette is a combination of ’net’ (from internet) and ’etiquette’ (polite behavior) and describes respectful behavior online. In this list, we share our top 5 netiquette tips for international online discussions.**

## Top 5 Netiquette TIps

1. **Recognize and respect diversity**Be open to different points of view and try to understand other perspectives instead of judging them. Racist, sexist, ageist, and other disrespectful comments are unacceptable. If you notice such behavior, report the issue to a teacher.
2. **Use proper and understandable language**Even if people speak the same language, some forms of it might be difficult to understand for non-native speakers. Try to avoid slang words, abbreviations, idioms, and complex metaphors. Ask others if they understand what you try to say.
3. **Be explanatory when expressing your opinion**Instead of just saying “I agree” or “I disagree” it is useful for discussions if you make your arguments clear. Give other persons the chance to understand your perspective, to follow your train of thought, and to ask questions if they lose track.
4. **Don’t spam**Don’t send more messages than necessary to avoid overflowing mailboxes or confusing chats. Verify that you’ve included all necessary information in a message before you send it.
5. **Be present in video conferences – but not in a distracting way**Turn on your webcam so that others can see your gesture and your facial expression – your body languages makes it easier for others to understand the message you try to send. Avoid noises and mute your microphone while you are not speaking.

## Contact

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