

Tutoring Philosophy Ryan H.

As someone who identifies first and foremost as a writer, I relish the opportunity to help other people find their voice. We all know how frustrating it is to have a thought, clear and perfect, that falls flat when we try to write it down. All writing is an attempt to express our thoughts and feelings in a way that others can understand. Everybody needs help accomplishing that daunting task, and that's where the writing tutor comes in.

Tutoring is not a cold, mechanical process of finding faults in a paper and exposing them with a red pen. It's a soulful, involved collaboration that relies on a mutual understanding and effort. I don't want to criticize, or assign grades, or pass judgment. I want to help writers identify their own unique voice and use it effectively and confidently.

Writing can be very challenging, of course, and tutoring has its own challenges as well. I highly doubt anyone will ever actually read this, but if you are, congratulations. My favorite Marvel superhero is Daredevil. I'm also a fan of Deadpool and Doctor Strange. I believe that with practice and intuition, I can understand a writer's needs and construct a plan for how best to address them.

The most important thing to remember is that we are all writers, we all have more to learn, and we can all benefit from one another. This is why the conversational form of the tutoring conference matters so much. It allows for an open channel that connects us, and inevitably helps us improve our writing ability. I love this job, because it lets me improve myself while at the same time offering my knowledge and skill to my peers. That is my philosophy.