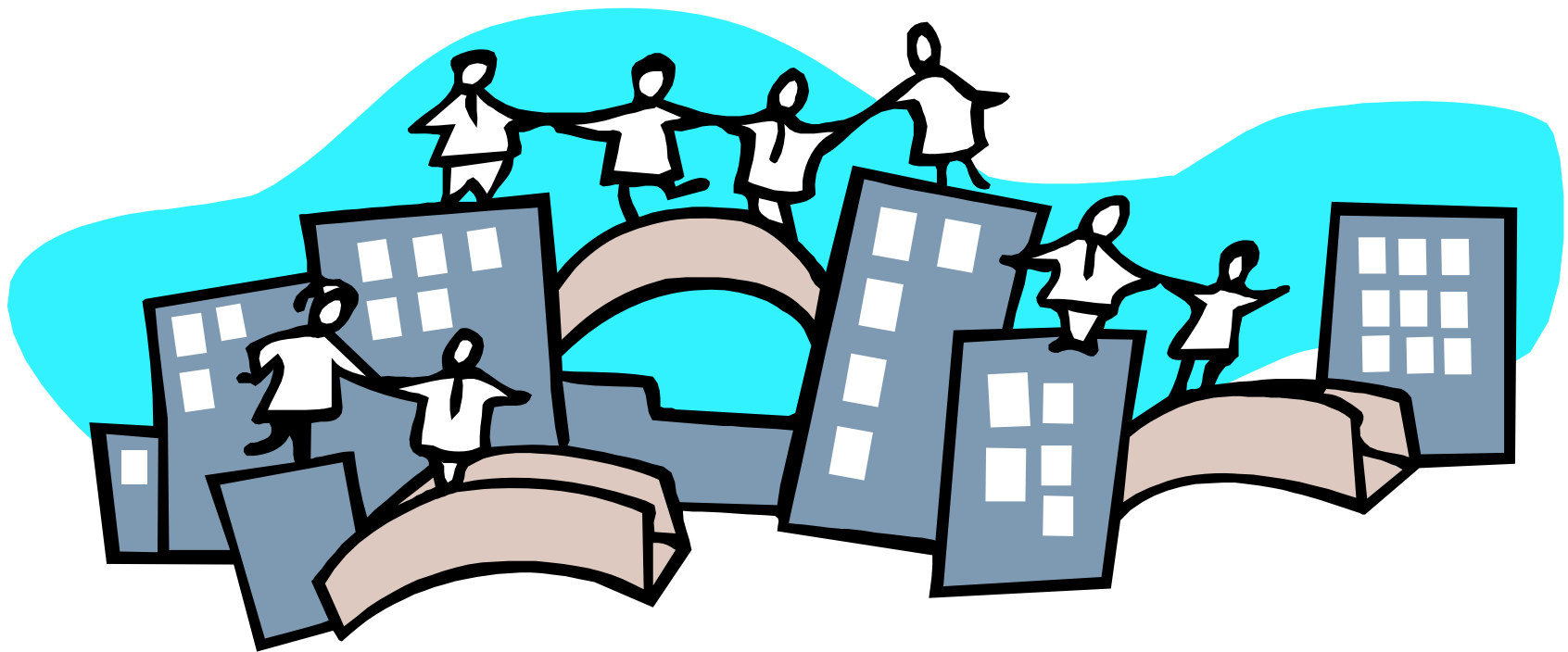


Roommate Relations!



EXPECTATIONS

- For many people heading off to college, movies and books are their only reference for the whole roommate experience.

So they might think a roommate will be either:

- (a) A complete freak who makes living at the library seem attractive, or
 - (b) A BFF who will be by their side every step of the way as they traverse the world of college.
- The truth is, roommates tend to fall somewhere in the middle of those two extremes.



REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

- **Talk Early/Talk Well**

- When you first meet your roommate, chances are you'll be on your best behavior. You want to get along!
- But try to think ahead to potential worst-case scenarios, too.

For example, imagine it's 2 AM and you're working on a paper that's due in 8 hours. Your roommate comes in from a party and wants to continue the party in your room. At times like these, you won't be feeling particularly benevolent.

That's why talking about issues that might come up ahead of time – and respecting each other's wishes when the time comes – is so important.



REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

- **Talk Early/Talk Well**
 - Talk about the things that are really important to you, and make sure your roommate understands.
 - Then encourage him or her to do the same.
 - For instance:
 - Does it drive you nuts when people take things without asking first?
 - Does perfume trigger your asthma?
- **Let your roommate know these types of things from the start.**



REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

- **Talk with your roommate about:**
 - Are you a morning or night person?
 - Can you sleep if music is playing or the lights are on?
 - Are you a neat freak or is the floor your laundry basket?
 - How do you feel about sharing food, clothes, or school supplies?
 - How do you feel about overnight guests of the same sex? Of the opposite sex? How long can they stay?



The Key To Success Is:

COMMUNICATION!



- ☞ Talk to your roommate.
- ☞ Get to know one another.
- ☞ If you are upset, talk to your roommate right away!
- ☞ Be HONEST! If your roommate asks you if something is “okay”, don’t say “yes” if it isn’t!

!! Important Points !!



Getting a new roommate is a last resort.



The first step in solving a roommate conflict is talking to one another. Then see your CA if you still cannot resolve the conflict.



You will need Compromise, Maturity, and **RESPECT** when living with a roommate!

!! Important Points !!



In the beginning, many roommates stay close; they eat their meals together, attend activities and more. Neither roommate knows that many other people, and so they stick together.



But, things may change. After a while, you might start hanging out with fellow classmates, or join a sorority or fraternity. It is perfectly normal for you and your roommate to drift apart as you both learn to stand on your own two feet.



Even the most respectful roommates have spats.

