Project: Edit each other's writing

For this project you will exchange writing with each other and get practice working through the editing process. You don't have to work in pairs but that might be the easier way to go.

1. Select a current or recent writing project of yours that is at least five pages and no more than 12 pages. You will have a little over a week to complete this, so the writing you select for this project should be manageable within this time frame.

2. Discuss with your editor what level of editing you would like; determine style guide to be followed (Chicago, APA, MLA, etc) and any ways you might want to deviate from that style. Since this is an online class, we will exchange work electronically – decide if you prefer Google Docs or Word.

I was going to call this project "edit your fellow students' writing" but that sounded too much like this meme.

3. Edit the work. Use the word processor's Comment feature to communicate with the writer – this means you need to explain why you made the change you did, or you need to ask the writer for clarification. This is called querying. Number each query in accordance with good editing practice.

4. As editor, you will submit the following to me:
   • A copy of the edited work, including queries. Use Word's Comment function, or use Google Doc's comments; if you choose the latter, send an invite to view the document to karenkaiserlee@gmail.com.
   • A brief reflection on your experiences with this project from the point of view of editor and of writer. As writer, you should include what level of editing you requested, and if you felt like your editor provided that level. (I won't share this or any of your reflection with your editor.)
   • You will also give your edits and queries to your writer.

Monday, October 5: Discuss queries; review project parameters; find partners for project (randomly assigned or you pick 'em?). Choose due date for this assignment.
Homework: On your own – review Handbook chapters 4-8 and related exercises in Workbook; read <u>"'Unclear, Unfunny, Delete'"</u> (The entire copy of the book draft with all the editor's queries is in Files > Examples of editing queries if you're interested) and review Chapter 2 of the Handbook (mainly the section on Querying.)
Select writing to be edited for this assignment. It could be an essay you wrote for an earlier class, or an essay for a class you are currently in (if so, make sure this is okay with the professor). Creative writers may select from their works.
Compete review quiz covering chapters 4-8 (to be posted by October 6) worth 3 points.