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With the expansion of the computer age, more and more people have tapped into the Internet. Therefore the Internet has spun off its own form of language, along with its share of insults. The most common insult that comes to mind is the word "newbie," or better known as "N00B" or "noob." The technical definition of a newbie would probably be an inexperienced person, but newbies are much more than that. For some bizarre reason, N00Bs tend to be impolite, selfish, and thickheaded.

Newbies are extremely impolite towards other people. They are the type of people who would cut ahead of you in line<sup>not die</sup> and not think twice about it. They would be the person to laugh at a funeral, slam the door in another person's face, or pass gas during church. A perfect example of this would be when I played WarCraft. The newbie would purposely stand in front of the busiest building in town, the bank, and shut the door on people walking in or out. He/she would then be asked to stop by numerous players by whom<sup>to whom</sup> the N00B replied with cursing and other rude remarks, which would not be proper to include in this essay. Newbies would also be known to go to popular fighting areas, which only contain one exit, with a gate or door, and slam the door shut as another player tried to escape from a most certain death. The person would die, and the noob would waltz in to collect his goods when all was safe.

(<sup>in addition</sup>) Likewise to being impolite, newbies are also selfish people. They take from the rich and the poor<sup>and</sup> and give to themselves! If they found ten dollars lying on the street, a newbie would refuse to give two dollars to a bum looking to buy some booze for himself/herself. I was playing a game called Runescape and just happened to see someone die across the courtyard from me. I hurried over to his remains and his belongings, only to be beat to them by one of these noobs. The N00B picked up all of the

dead player's weapons, armor, and money, a rather wealthy amount of goods. Another smaller player, also seeing the man die, came over and asked for a bronze sword, the cheapest sword in the entire game, which the person had dropped. The noob laughed at his/her request, and walked to the nearest general store to sell all the goods he has just picked up, including the ten-dollar sword.

Finally, newbies are the most thickheaded people around. They can be told the same information over and over again, with solid proof backing up the statements, and yet they will still refuse to believe what they are hearing. I went on a well-respected public forum<sup>not a site</sup> and saw a thread dealing with the Second World War. Curious, I read the post only to discover the person posting it believed that Germany did not start the war; in fact, he claimed Great Britain and the United States of America had started the war in order to take over the Middle East's oil and destroy Germany and Japan. I, along with many others, posted direct information about the holocaust, Pearl Harbor, Germany's invasion of Europe and Africa, and Japan's invasion of Asia. The newbie claimed all the information was completely false, fabricated by the Allied Powers of the time in order to justify the cause of "their war." He dismissed the thousands of pictures of the holocaust, the news releases of the day, and the numerous speeches spoken by German leaders.

Newbie is the most common insult used online today, aside of the average curse words that are used in everyday life. Newbie could simply indicate an inexperienced person, but to me it means a person who is impolite, selfish, and thickheaded. People have taken a harmless word<sup>not a site</sup> and turned it into an insult for the ages. Maybe one-day, people will learn to treat others with respect and be open-minded towards other's views, but that is not going to happen anytime soon.

♣ apostrophes

★ commas