VARIABLES THAT AFFECT COMPLIANCE

Do not use a question format when giving a command: • Do not use such statements as "Isn't it time to do your work?" or "Wouldn't you like to start to work?" Instead make the request a polite command, such as "please start your work."	**Do not give multiple requests:** • Make only one request at a time. Do not string requests together.
Get close to the student when giving a command: • The optimal distance for giving a command is approximately three feet. Do not give commands from great distances or from behind your desk.	**Describe the behavior you want:** • It helps to give specific and well described requests rather than global requests.
Use as quiet voice, do not yell: • When giving a command, give it in a quiet voice , up close, with eye contact	**Be nonemotional:** • Be calm, not emotional. Yelling, threatening gestures, ugly faces, quilt-inducing statements, rough handling, and deprecating comments about the student or his /her family only reduce compliance
Look students in the eye: • Request eye contact when giving a student a command. For example, "John, look me in the eyes. Now I want you to…….."	**Make more start request than stop requests:** • Request that start behaviors ("Do" requests) are more desirable than requests that inhibit behaviors (Don't" requests). The majority of teacher requests should be "Do" requests. If the majority of teacher requests are "Don't requests, it probably means the classroom rules or planned consequences are poorly designed or are not being implemented correctly.
Give the student time: • When giving a student a command, give him/her from five to ten seconds to respond before (1) giving the command again (2) giving a new command.	**Verbally reinforce compliance:** • It is easy to forget and not socially reward when he/she complies with your request. If you do not reward the student, compliance will decrease.
Do not nag: • Issue a command only twice, then follow through with a preplanned consequence. The more you request, the less likely your are to gain compliance	