1. **Log in to the computer and open Chrome or Firefox**
2. **Log in to edublogs.eanesisd.net**
3. **Hover over “My Sites” and select your CLASS BLOG--click on VISIT SITE**
4. **The class blog now has links to student blogs listed by class period (that was your teacher’s homework!) Check to see if all is correct:**
* **Are you in the right class period?**
* **Is your name spelled correctly?**
* **When you click on the link to your blog, does it open in a new window?**
* **Let your teacher know of any errors you find!**

**5. Now you look at YOUR blog.**

 **Does your blog avatar show up on your front page?**

 **Is your blog avatar near the top of your sidebar or footer?**

 **Does your user/comment avatar show in the far upper right corner next to your nickname?**

 **Do you have only ONE “About Me” page showing?**

**HELP EACH OTHER ADDRESS ANY PROBLEMS YOU FIND.**

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1. Go to **DASHBOARD>APPEARANCE>WIDGETS.**
2. Look at the widgets on your sidebar. This is the list we expect to see when we grade your blog. You will need to drag and drop some of the following from the lefthand column (available widgets) over to your sidebar (active widgets).

 **BLOG AVATAR
 PAGES (you should ONLY add this if your About Me doesn’t show without it!)**

 **LINKS**

 **RECENT COMMENTS
 RECENT POSTS**

 **TAG CLOUD**

 **TEXT WIDGET**

 **SUBSCRIBE BY EMAIL**

 **SEARCH**

 **CLASS BLOG**

 **TITLE: Leave this alone**

 **DISPLAY DROP DOWN: Choose AVATAR + BLOG NAME**

 **BLOG NAME CHARACTERS: Set to 70**

 **PUBLIC ONLY: Leave this alone**

 **ORDER: Choose alphabetical**

 **NUMBER: Choose 140 (more if teacher has more students!)**

 **AVATAR SIZE: Leave this alone**

 **SAVE these changes to CLASS BLOG widget!**

 \*\*\*\*You do not have a use for CATEGORIES and ARCHIVES right now, so you may either leave these at the bottom or drag them off. We will use them later.

3. Go to **DASHBOARD>PLUG-INS>ALL**

 Activate the following two plug-ins:

* Compfight Safe Images
* Supreme Google Webfonts

 Go to DASHBOARD>SETTINGS>WRITING to specify webfonts you want to use.

4. Go to **POSTS>ADD NEW**. (Make sure you don’t accidentally go to PAGES instead. This is a POST.)

Write your first post! Remember the things we noticed in our mentor text study of blog posts. Note the features of the post page reviewed by the teacher:

* TITLE
* POST BOX--with option for either TEXT or VISUAL
* SAVE DRAFT (this button says UPDATE after first save)
* Under the SAVE DRAFT box: Status, Visibility, Publish Date
* PREVIEW
* PUBLISH
* TAGS (See Mrs. Kriese’s personal blog to understand how a TAG CLOUD works. For example, click on Texas football to see all of Mrs. Kriese’s posts about Texas football.

Remember to

* Capitalize your title correctly
* Capitalize correctly in your post
* Pay attention to the red squiggly lines--have you misspelled a word?
* Use block paragraphing: indenting paragraphs doesn’t “stick” with most blog platforms, so you’ll need to hit the return key to put a blank line between paragraphs instead.
* **Tag your post** with a couple of key words, focusing on words you are likely to use again as tags.