

Alex Jacob

Prof. Mandell

COMM 142

July 25th, 2021

PB&J Video

Link to the video:

https://rit.zoom.us/rec/share/bj-T-TuZnuVkhNxffcxR6coG3TpTDH-HTeSmbSJ9oM0NbcU2gUkNeNK-cZZbEsU0.MNF00_z7kg0qUUsp

After watching the video, I realize that I could specify a handful of steps and that the auto-transcript is a little off. My first step read, “Well, to start, grab two slices of bread, a jar of peanut butter, a jar of jelly, and any spreading utensil.” This step was understood as intended, so this does not change. My next step read, “Next, take one slice of bread and place it so that the largest side is facing upward.” Again, this step was understood as intended. My next step read, “Then take your spreading utensil and spread an even amount of peanut butter across the first slice of bread.” I had hope that this was clear enough; however, one error was pointed out. I never specified that only one side should have peanut butter. My next two steps are essentially repeated but with jelly, and the same error appeared. My last step read, “Lastly, take both slices and combine them so that the peanut butter and jelly are facing each other.” This step was clear enough to get the intended outcome but can be specified better.

My revisions would mainly include being more specific over things that I would consider common sense, primarily because the assignment specified to follow the instructions letter-by-letter. More specifically, I would rewrite those steps to read, “Then take your spreading

utensil and spread an even amount of peanut butter/jelly across one side of the slice of bread.”

Also, for a simple quality-of-life change, I would specify at the beginning to do all of this over a cutting board or plate to mitigate messing up the counter. Lastly, I would specify the last step to line up both parts of the sandwich to lie on top of each other evenly, instead of slapping them together randomly.

Seeing someone else follow my instructions was an interesting experience. I was expecting either a perfect outcome or a perfectly wrong outcome. It was a humorous experience seeing Nicholas spread peanut butter and jelly on both sides then slapping them on his countertop (Sorry for the inevitable cleanup). I learned that although I may think that something is clear, it may be foggy to others. However, my instructions lead to a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, not necessarily a perfect sandwich, but a pb&j sandwich nonetheless. Reflecting further, this whole assignment reminds me of the subreddit [r/explainlikeimfive](https://www.reddit.com/r/explainlikeimfive/), where people ask questions and others respond like they are explaining to a five year old for maximum clarity.