

## COM101: The Communication Corner

[Back to Main Page](#)

### Search COM101

Search only in titles:

**Search**

[Advanced Search](#)

### Sponsors

Pottery Barn  
Kids®

[potterybarnkids.com](http://potterybarnkids.com)



Designing Rooms to  
Planning Events.  
We'll Help You Make  
it Easy & Fun!

DIRECTV®  
Internet  
Bundle

Super New  
Welding  
Machine

Work at Home  
- No Fee

### Recent Posts

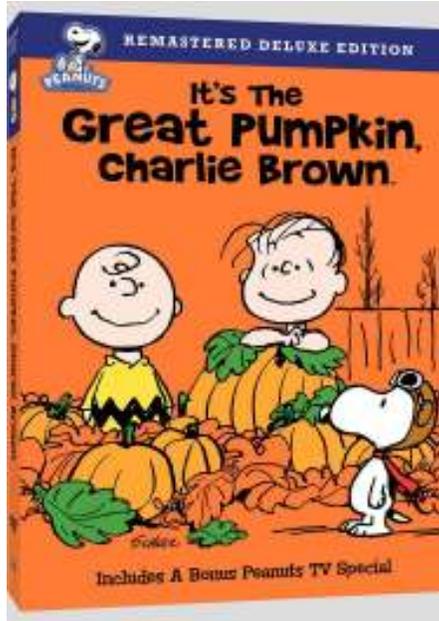
[For conspiracy theorists, any story will do](#)  
Saturday, March 17, 2012

[How to spot liars on online dating sites](#)  
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

[How organizational hierarchy affects language in workplace e-mail](#)  
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

[Do psychopaths use language differently from everyone else?](#)  
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

### Halloween interpersonal relationship lessons from 'It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown'



Happy [Halloween](#)! Many people will spend today munching on treats, getting into trouble with tricks, and carving pumpkins. Another Halloween tradition for many people is watching "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown," which has a lot of [interpersonal relationship](#) lessons presented by [Charles M. Schulz](#).

- 1. Some people love to crush spirits.** No matter how many times Charlie Brown tries, he can't kick the [football](#)—because Lucy won't let him. For once, Charlie Brown thinks he has a fighting chance because Lucy presented a [signed document](#) promising not to yank the football away this time. "I guess if you have a signed document in your possession you can't go wrong," Charlie Brown says. However, Lucy once again crushes Charlie Brown's spirits, letting him know that the document had not been notarized.
- 2. To coexist peacefully, friends will often overlook certain philosophical differences.** Charlie Brown thinks that Linus is crazy for believing in the Great Pumpkin. Linus thinks that Charlie Brown is ridiculous for believing in Santa Claus. In the end, they agree to disagree. Whether it's [religion](#), [politics](#), or imaginary [cultural](#) figures, sometimes we have to overlook our friends' beliefs and focus on our similarities, rather than our differences.
- 3. Our family members will always embarrass us.** Lucy wants to enjoy the Halloween festivities with the other children, but a dark cloud hangs over her head—her brother's love of the Great Pumpkin. She complains that every year, she is forced to explain why her brother isn't trick-or-treating and she's embarrassed to admit that Linus is sitting in a pumpkin patch waiting for his elusive hero.
- 4. We'll listen to anything when we're in love.** Sally is absolutely enamored when she hears the story of the Great Pumpkin—so much so that she agrees to sit in the pumpkin patch with Linus on Halloween night. Charlie Brown can't understand why Sally agreed to it, but her heart wants what it wants—to spend time with Linus, no matter how ridiculous his story is.

[BUY FRESH Boiled Peanuts](#)

[paulyspeanuts.com](http://paulyspeanuts.com)

Southern & Cajun boiled peanuts. Cooked FRESH. Shipped DAILY.

- 5. Sometimes we have to delude ourselves to be happy.** When Lucy explains how to pick a Halloween costume, she says that it's best to pick a costume that is the opposite of the wearer's [personality](#). She says this is why she picked her witch costume. Although her friends know that her costume is closer to her personality than she will admit, Lucy needs to believe her explanation to feel better about herself.

[Employee envy and disengagement linked to workplace sabotage](#)  
Monday, January 30, 2012

[Just play one on TV: Workplace portrayals of psychologists turn off potential patients](#)  
Monday, January 23, 2012

[Research finds a new cure for the common cold: Social comparison](#)  
Friday, September 23, 2011

[Insomniac workers cost companies billions](#)  
Thursday, September 15, 2011

[Close connections and goals are the key to happiness](#)  
Wednesday, September 14, 2011

[Autonomous workers are happier workers](#)  
Tuesday, September 13, 2011

## Sponsors

MUST-HAVES  
NOW ON SALE

30%  
OFF

SHOP WHILE  
THEY LAST

ModCloth

## Featured Posts

[Crime fact and crime fiction: How crime shows affect your views on the justice system](#)

[The best of times and the worst of times are the interpersonal times](#)

[Female Oscar winners more likely to divorce](#)

[Creative workers feel stressed, but happy](#)

[Hell hath no fury like a consumer scorned](#)

**6. We will follow our hearts even when it makes us look stupid.** When Halloween rolls around, Sally is torn between going trick-or-treating and spending the time with Linus in the pumpkin patch. Although she is an inch away from enjoying the night with her friends, she listens to her heart and stays with Linus.

**7. "Stand by your man" sometimes has an expiration date.** Sally realizes that she wasted her entire night with Linus when the Great Pumpkin never shows up. Feeling like a fool, Sally's patience wore out and she did not stand by her man in the pumpkin patch—she decided to leave him there alone instead.

**8. Siblings are there for you, even when you're doing something stupid.** Although she suffers annual embarrassment from the beliefs of her brother, Lucy still feels bad for Linus when she finds him in the pumpkin patch—alone, shivering from the cold, and still waiting for the Great Pumpkin. She brings her brother home and helps him get into his warm bed because, at the end of the day, blood is often thicker than stupidity.

### More COM101:

[7 Halloween workplace lessons from 'It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown'](#)

[Pharmaceutical advertising influences doctors' prescribing habits](#)

[Language styles are a reflection of our relationships](#)

[Unfriended: Why your Facebook friends are dumping you](#)

[Why texting and job hunting don't mix](#)

amazon.com  
and you're done.™

	<a href="#">A Charlie Brown Christmas</a> New \$9.99		<a href="#">The Peanut Reaction</a> New \$1.99		<a href="#">Jeff Dunham</a> Jeff Dunham New \$12.11
	<a href="#">Pressure / The Smoking Peanut</a> New \$1.99		<a href="#">Jeff Dunham, Michael...</a> New \$6.67		<a href="#">Balancing Act</a> New \$1.99
	<a href="#">A Charlie Brown Christmas</a> Various New \$14.55		<a href="#">It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown...</a> New \$9.99		<a href="#">Peanuts Holiday Collection</a> Various New \$26.98

[Privacy Information](#)



Posted by Kenya McCullum at [October 31, 2010](#)

Categories: [Emotions](#), [Television](#), [Mass Communication](#), [Self-Disclosure](#), [Holidays](#), [Listening](#), [Siblings](#), [Media](#), [Written Communication](#), [Happiness](#), [Verbal Communication](#), [Children](#), [Intrapersonal Communication](#), [Sports](#), [Romantic Relationships](#), [Personality](#), [Family Communication](#), [Conflict](#), [Chronemics](#), [Friends](#), [Interpersonal Communication](#)

Tags: [It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown](#) [Lucy Halloween](#) [Charles Schulz](#) [Charlie Brown](#) [Sally Linus](#)

[Previous Post](#)

[Next Post](#)

## Trackbacks

[Trackback specific URL for this post](#)

No trackbacks exist for this post.

## Comments

No comments exist for this post.

## Leave a comment

Comments are closed.