

Friendship Deal-Breakers

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Every indignant meme, Thought Catalog post and BuzzFeed quiz aims to warn you against the standard relationship deal-breakers that you need not put up with. More important than relationship deal-breakers, however, are friendship deal-breakers – qualities in a friend that make you want to smack them in the face, but you settle for posting sarcastic memes in their tribute instead.

Bad Hygiene

This isn't so much a bad quality in a friend as a bad quality in a person in general. Our friends are the people we tend to spend the most amount of time with, so bad hygiene is a primary concern. They might see you through every thick and thin, but bad breath, body odour and unsightly eating habits are not things anyone signs up for. So if you're the only one in the group not being included in the group hugs, you might want to rethink your personal hygiene regime.

Pessimism

My friends, bless them, are mostly all bright little boxes of sunshine. And that is how friends should be. Every group needs a mother to the bunch. The friend who tells you when something is a bad idea or



Bad personal hygiene, pessimism regarding its endangered status, causing drama in your life by eating your beloved friends – a tiger will make the worst friend possible.

reminds you to study – that isn't pessimism, it's called being responsible. But then there's that person who finds the dark side to every opinion, every event. This is the person who will hold a grudge against you for being busy or not receiving a call that one time last month. They're the ones who will force you to pick sides in a fight that doesn't concern you at all and really, you're better off

without that kind of childishness.

Over-intrusiveness

However close you may be to your group of bffs, there's something that every person needs—space. If they fail to understand why you sometimes need to be alone, or why you cannot share a particular secret with them, don't blame yourself. If they read your messages behind your back and talk to people pretending to be

you, call the police. You'll be surprised to know how often that happens.

Not Sticking Up For You

This needs a little elaboration.

Obviously, when one of your friends finds love, they're going to need privacy. The newly acquired girl/boyfriend is going to take precedence over other people and failing to understand that would probably make *you* the weird one. But then they will want to read their conversations with you, ask to be included in every secret or problem you share with your friend, object to any kind of one-on-one friend time and throw a tantrum over the most harmless of friendly affectionate displays. What your friend's other half does is irrelevant, but when your friend condones this kind of behavior and allows for you to be put down by the person they're involved with, it's time to leave the scene and let the crazies be.

It's redundant to say "Don't be friends with people who treat you wrong or backbite about you" because no one chooses to do that consciously. It's really the subtle flaws which annoy us on a daily basis that tend to work their poison more. But if their presence makes it worthwhile to tolerate their little imperfections, and if they tolerate yours, I'd say you've found a friend worth sticking around for.

Budget Eating around Campus

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Campus: BRAC University, Mohakhali Campus

Budget: 100 ± 20 Taka

As far as survival skills go, keeping your tummy happy is probably the most important. Trudging to classes hungry and cranky doesn't make coping with the pressure of studies any easier.

Although BRACU boasts two canteens and a snack bar, I personally found it difficult not to grow tired of eating the same food. It's easier with a loaded wallet, but chances are you've had to take a CNG to catch a class and you're down to your last few notes.

Fortunately, there are several places that are just a stone's throw away and can be frequented when the budget is limited.

KMC Dispenser

The name might be misleading but this place sells the best chicken rolls I've ever had. Well, at least while paying just Tk 60 for it. If you add an egg to the succulent, spicy chicken and paratha roll, the price is hiked by just Tk 10. The place also sells club sandwiches that are just as good for Tk 50.

Cinnamon and Roll n Grill

Cinnamon has a few set meals that will stretch the budget a bit, but their egg noodle comes at just Tk 90. The portion is reasonable and it's the best option if

you're a noodle person. If it's fried rice you prefer, then head over to Roll n Grill for their chicken fried rice which comes at Tk 100 per plate.

Solna and Ajwah

If you're into patties, rolls, and similar savoury baked goodies, these are two places you can go to, and most of their food comes in under Tk 70. Enjoy satiating your sweet tooth during crunch time? These two places offer a variety of pastries, donuts and other desserts you can pick up on the go.



Ghorowa Restora and Bismillah Café

Sadly, most of the scrumptious items offered by these two places are way beyond the budget but if you're a fan of grilled chicken and naan, you'll be able to fill your tummy within a Tk 100 budget. Both places have their regulars, and from what I've noticed, each place has patrons of their grilled chicken. The

quarter portions and the huge naans are the best option if you're in need of a hearty meal.

Bottola

Before the name creates a misconception, I want to clear out that this refers to an area with a few *tong-er doka*n under a banyan tree, and these shops are known for their dirt cheap food. Tk 10



PHOTOS: DARSHAN CHAKMA

kebab rolls, Tk 40 tehari, and Tk 20 egg-and-ruti rolls, to name a few. Yes. Also, Boost tea.

If you feel uncomfortable unless you're eating at places that empty your wallet faster than CNG rides, you'll probably be better off eating from the canteen or (opting for the best way to not spend on



food at all by) bringing food from home. Take it from me, the only thing needed to survive the semesters is to find ways to achieve the 'freshman 15' all throughout.

Locations:

Cinnamon, Solna, and KMC Dispenser are all adjacent to the BRACU main building, with Solna and KMC Dispenser next to each other and Cinnamon on the floor above the two. Bismillah Café and Roll n Grill are both on the road behind the said building. Ajwah and Ghorowa are both a minute's walk from the main building towards Mohakhali flyover, opposite to Hotel Zakaria. Bottola is located at the end of the road behind Square Tower which is opposite to the main building, next to BRACU's Building 5.