Noises That Can Ruin Your Interviews

1. Traffic
2. Wind or fan blowing
3. Foot tapping
4. Someone clicking their clicky pen (NO CLICKY PENS IN INTERVIEWS)
5. Tapping your pen/pencil on the table
6. Rustling papers
7. Chair squeaking
8. Shoe rubbing/tapping against things
9. Humming of electronics and lights
10. Coughing/sniffling/laughing/whispering/walking around by interviewers
11. Cracking/chewing gum (NO GUM IN INTERVIEWS)
12. People going in and out of doors
13. Saying “Um” and “like” incessantly
14. Conversations in any other part of the room
15. Cracking your knuckles/neck
16. Rapping your knuckles/drumming your fingers on the table
17. Fidgeting
18. Jingly jewelry

Moral of the Story: Some background noises add to the ambience of your interview as long as they do not obstruct the interviewee’s talking or distract the interviewee from what he/she is saying. SOMEONE MUST ALWAYS BE WEARING THE HEADPHONES AND LISTENING FOR ROGUE SOUNDS OR VITAL PARTS OF YOUR INTERVIEW MAY BE UNUSABLE.