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You Might Be A Hipster

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Between liberal use of the word “epic,” penchant for flannel, ironic moustaches, and PBR, hipsters are easy targets for criticism. However, they still manage to exude a “way-cooler-than-thou” confidence. This demeanor is probably achieved by knowing mainstream society hasn’t heard of their favorite band and by sporting overpriced Urban Outfitters skinny jeans. So it’s possible the counterculture that regrettably popularized the “chill-wave” music genre is misunderstood. Ames, for example, is home to a group of self-aware kids who realize they’re part of the hipster culture, and are totally chill with it.

Cardigan or jacket? Depends on the season. I have a few vintage jackets, but I like to wear cardigans when it’s spring or when you need something under your winter jacket.

Five years ago...
How many flannel shirts did you have? I bought two of my flannel shirts junior year in the men’s section of Gap.
Did you wear skinny or loose jeans? Loose.

You might be a HIPSTER IF...

1. You post a link of your other Tumblr on your Tumblr.
2. Blog about the alienating effects of technology on your Macbook.
3. While browsing “Look at this Fucking Hipster,” you recognize a friend’s picture posted on the site. You decide not to be friends with him or her because you don’t want to associate with “hipsters.”
4. You did that before anyone else.
5. You hate to love - yet love to hate - Pitchfork.
6. You’re in too many “bands”.
8. You’re white and say the word swag.
9. Text someone that you’re too poor to go to the show from your Iphone 4G.
10. You’re just a cool, creative, and awesome person who is into cool stuff and gets judged. Haters.

By ALLISON SUESSE & ANDREW LOPEZ
the Creator, I really like him and his crew—OFWGKTA. I like everything, I’m pretty eclectic.

**Do you think hipster is more of a personality thing or aesthetic thing?**

For me, the parts of myself I would consider hipster-y are more aesthetic. I think the attitude that’s associated with it is not something I really have, the negative attitude anyway. I think it’s both, though.

**Flannel or stripes?**
Stripes.

**How tight are your skinny jeans?**
Fairly. I’d say the pockets are still accessible, I can still fit my phone in my pocket.

**House shows or venue shows?**
Ames doesn’t have house shows very often, but if you find a house that constantly hosts touring bands, that’s the perfect happy medium.

**Five years ago...**

**What were you listening to?**
Ben Folds and Regina Spektor and Voxtrot

**What were your clothes like?**
I really liked to layer my clothes. I was very persistent about having flared jeans. If it was anything I could alter or make, I would wear it. And you could always tell I’d always altered it or made it.

**CARA GRULA**
(ironic hipster)

What are you listening to right now?
Lady Gaga and Ke$ha

Do you think hipster is a negative or positive term?
It depends. If you’re calling me a hipster it’s positive. Because that’s what I strive for.

**Dress pants or jeans?**
Dresses, there’s no waistband

**What are you listening to on your iPod?**
Mumford and Sons, Avett Brothers, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart!

**Is hipster an inner/personality thing or an outer/aesthetic describing word?**
It goes from person to person. You will have people who ‘act more hipster’ and people who look ‘more hipster’.

**Dress pants or jeans?**
Dress pants.

**Cardigan or jacket?**
Jackets! More variety.

**Are your friends hipsters?**
I wouldn’t say they are. A few of them could be, but it’s whatever! I’ve never really thought about it. I hang out with people I like, regardless of what they like. Everyone loves everyone!

**Miller Highlife or PBR?**
Fuck beer!

**Five years ago...**

**What were you listening to?**
Van Halen, Babyface (which is hilarious and still awesome, by the way) and Beck. I still listen to them from time to time.

**What were your clothes like?**
Full windbreaker jumpsuit and baggy jeans.

**What did you do before anyone else?**
Shave the back of my head.

**What do you interpret a hipster being, and do you think you fit the stereotype?**
I think the single most defining characteristic of the hipster counterculture is alternative thought or philosophy. I think I interpret the hipster as being at least slightly alternative in his or her thinking relative to mainstream culture. Unfortunately, yes. I think I am a pretty stereotypical hipster. Why is that unfortunate? Because being stereotypical anything is to be anti-counterculture, which is anti-hipster. It’s a terrible circle of doom.

**Fixy or geared bike?**
Fixies are taking over Ames. I think I’d ride a geared bike over that.

**Is your moustache ironic?**
If I had one it would be. I can’t really grow a good one, so it would be a joke. However, if I could grow a good one, I think I would take it terribly seriously.

**PBR or High Life?**
If I want to be associated with my hipster brethren, or I want a cheap beer on tap at Thumbs, then I drink PBR. But, honestly... I think I like High Life better. I can just see all of my friends reeling back in shock and dismay as they read this.

**What do you think hipster is more of a personality thing or aesthetic thing?**
For me, the parts of myself I would consider hipster-y are more aesthetic. I think the attitude that’s associated with it is not something I really have, the negative attitude anyway. I think it’s both, though.

**What are your clothes like?**
A lot of little patterns like little guns or little tulips. And then I had sneaker flats from Vans that had a bunch of little patterns.

**Did you wear skinny or loose jeans?**
Skinny

**What were you listening to?**
RelientK, Switchfoot, Mute Math, Sanctus Real, Falling Up

**How many flannel shirts did you have?**
One pretty dank one I think.

**KEVIN BERGERON**
(biker hipster)

**What do you do before anyone else?**
Shave the back of my head.

**Five years ago...**
What were you listening to?

**What were your clothes like?**
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**TONY LA BAT**
(music lover hipster)

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**Things that hipsters liked before they became mainstream, thus becoming un-cool:**

1. Arcade Fire
2. Cats
3. Knitting
4. Being unemployed
5. Ray Ban knockoffs
   And not liking Kings of Leon.
7. Longboards
8. Saying “Black Swan should have won.”