SUBCULTURES VS STEREOTYPES



Match the numbers to the letters. There are two extra variants you don't need to use.

Adolescence is a period of change and creativity as well as identity development. During this period of change, the young begin to form social groups with others that have similar concerns and experiences and, as a result, different subcultures are born.

1. **The Chavs**

The term 'chavs' is used to describe an anti-social lower-class youth dressed in sportswear. A chav is usually a young person who wears fashionable (or not really) tracksuit or/with flashy jewelry (also known as 'bling') but is regarded as badly behaved or as having lower-class taste. Some chavs are harmless, however, most of them are really violent and rude. Chavs are created by their parents through serious neglect and lack of adequate education of any kind. There's a stereotype that all the chavs become parents at a very young age (around 14, to be exact), but this is, of course, not true.

2. **The Cheerleaders**

Cheerleading has long been considered an iconic American activity symbolizing school spirit, leadership, youthfulness, and good looks. It is a very competitive sport and their team works all year in order to go to a competition (usually nationals) and perform. But there's s stereotype among people that cheerleaders are very narrow-minded and silly. But, the fact is, that these girls have to actually maintain a usual average of 70% in school in order to be on the team, proving the "dumb" label incorrect.

3. **The Preppies**

The Preppies are young people, especially in America, who are usually born with a silver spoon in their mouth, study at an expensive private school (or are graduates of such institutions) and who are conventional and conservative in their attitudes, behaviour, and style of clothing. Many people assume that people of this subculture are not taken seriously by anyone. Hollywood may make millions of dollars by portraying dumb, entitled people in their movies, but that is not typically true. But what is true is the fact that usually suffer from high expectations from their parents and they can be really rowdy teens.

4. **The hipsters**

In the 21st century, a hipster is a member of a subculture that claims to seek authenticity and uniqueness, a person who follows trends that they regard as being outside the mainstream. Hipsters are, perhaps, the most underrated subculture because no one outside their circle truly understands them. Society mocks anyone who ventures outside social norms, has a wacky style or has a quirky hobby. Hipsters are blamed for being 'pretentious' and others usually say that they just try too hard to get attention.

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5. The Nerds

A nerd is a person seen as overly intellectual, obsessive, introverted or lacking social skills. Such a person may spend inordinate amounts of time on unpopular, little known, or non-mainstream activities, which are generally either highly technical, abstract, or relating to topics of science fiction or fantasy. Additionally, many so-called nerds are described as being shy, pedantic and unattractive. Originally derogatory, the term "nerd" was a stereotype, but later it has been reclaimed and redefined as a term of pride and group identity. However, the augmentative terms, 'geek' and 'dork', have not experienced a similar positive drift in meaning and usage.

6. The "E"

Teenagers created one more subculture in the late 2010s. Eboys and Egirls emerged on Chinese social media app TikTok, where Gen Z has flocked to participate in hashtagged challenges and lipsyncing videos. Though the trend is for the young, it harkens back to subcultures of the past, combining elements of grunge with skater style, and even goth gloom. Among the "E," both genders paint their nails, favoring long-sleeved striped T-shirts worn under black graphic tees, all tucked into jeans styled with plenty of wallet chains. Egirls notably wear distinctive eye makeup too, often adding hearts or other small symbols to their cheeks. On the whole, the look reminds viewers that even among the newest subcultures, elements of the past remain important, with young people mixing and matching them to fit the current trends, so it is loop that's unlikely to ever end.

The representatives of which subculture:

A Were inspired by the subcultures from the past?

B Are too rebellious and fight social norms?

C Come from rich families?

D Are falsely accused of being underachievers?

E Managed to change social perception of their subculture?

F Lack proper upbringing?

G Become stars in films?

H Are accused of being ostentatious?