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Touchstones of Popular Culture Among Contemporary College Students in the United States

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Touchstones of Popular Culture
Among Contemporary College Students in the United States

A Thesis Presented to
The Graduate Faculty of
Minnesota State University Moorhead

By

Margaret Elizabeth Thoemke

In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language

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Moorhead, Minnesota

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this thesis to my three most favorite people in the world. To my mother, Heather Flaherty, for always supporting me and guiding me to where I am today. To my husband, Jake Thoemke, for pushing me to be the best I can be and reminding me that I'm okay. Lastly, to my son, Liam, who is my biggest fan and my reason to be the best person I can be.

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Abstract

This report is based on survey research. The survey was sent out to collect popular culture items from Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) students to see if there were popular culture items relevant enough to teach to English Learners (ELs) in order for them to be successful. The research showed that there are several genres of popular culture that should be taught to ELs for them to be successful academically and other to have successful interactions with their peers. This report leaves room for further research to be done in the subject as well.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Learning a new language is no small feat for any individual. Through learning a language, we also learn a culture, as language and culture are closely related and interactive. As one article stated, “Language has been seen as a part of culture and a form of accumulated knowledge in the culture. Language is a means to develop and transmit the culture as well as to communicate within the culture” (Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017, p. 23). Since the two concepts are so closely intertwined, it is hard to imagine teaching one without the other in a language classroom. So, what is language? What is culture? What is the relationship between them? What is the relationship between culture and language learning? How does cultural knowledge help individuals to deal with culture shock? What is the role of cultural knowledge in academic success? What is popular culture? What is the role of popular culture in society? What is the role of popular culture in academic success? All of these questions will be looked at in detail, as they shape the importance of the need to teach culture in a language classroom.

Language

What is language? According to *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, language is, “the words, their pronunciation, and the methods of combining them, used and understood by a community” (Language, 2019). While this definition offers a solid foundation to the definition of language, it also is not a complete definition, if you consider all of the aspects of language. What about animals? Do they use language? Another definition

offered is, “Language is often viewed as a complex system that reflects what meanings are attached to behaviors and how they are expressed” (Hinkel, 1999, p. 3-4). This definition reflects the cultural aspect of language, where there is behavioral meaning and expressions connected to the words, unlike the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* definition. It discusses the behavioral side of language, but once again we are left wondering who uses language. These definitions suggest that neither of them is complete, and both need to be more inclusive. A professor of mine once presented the following definition: language is a system of arbitrary symbols that humans use to communicate with others who speak the same language (Houts-Smith, L., Personal communication, August 2016). This definition includes pieces of the first two mentioned above, and actually includes the fact that language is about communication. It further limits the use of language to humans, giving the level of uncertainty we have of other creatures’ languages. These are important distinctions, in addition to language being arbitrary, that need to be made when looking at language as a big picture idea.

Culture

What is culture? One suggestion was, “it goes without saying that culture is such a complex and multifaceted concept that any attempt to focus on a single definition is simplistic and naïve” (Lavrenteva & Orland-Barak, 2015, p. 654). As this quote suggests, culture is a vast complexity of smaller pieces that are interrelated in such a way that, if someone is raised within it, they will live in such a way that reflects all of those smaller pieces. One definition that attempts to unpack the complexity of what culture is states: “culture consists of shared characteristics of behavior and social interactions, cognitive constructs, and affective understanding; patterns that are acquired through a process of

socialization and transmitted to future generations; an ongoing meaning-making process within a context” (Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017, p. 23). While this definition seems lengthy, it does include key aspects that encompass what culture is and why it is so difficult to define. Because there are so many pieces and aspects of what culture is, there can't really be just one good definition, as mentioned above, but we can look at how culture relates to other concepts, like language and language learning.

Culture and Language

What is the relationship between culture and language? “Some sociologists believe that [language] is the keystone of culture. They believe, without language, culture would not be available” (Isbahi, 2017, p. 362). When considering the closely related relationship between culture and language, one article stated that, “the language people use for every day communication is proved in the culture where the language is shaped by and at the same time shapes the culture” (Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017, p. 24). This statement further emphasizes the intimacy of the relationship that culture and language have and shows that they have not only an interconnected relationship but also a changing one.

When people are learning a language, they are not just getting knowledge about the language, but also about cultural beliefs and values that shape that language. “Language is a medium of communication that expresses, embodies, and symbolizes cultural reality” (as cited in Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017, p. 24). People need to know how to express themselves in the target language correctly and part of that relies heavily on cultural norms within that language; for example, in American English, there are multiple ways to greet someone, all of which have a variety of formalities, and it is

important to understand American culture before greeting someone so that the level of formality chosen is appropriate to the situation. As Pourkalhor and Esfandiari (2017) point out, “language teachers and learners should be aware of the culturally appropriate ways and behaviors as well as thoughts in the target language speech community” (p. 24).

Culture and Language Learning

What is the relationship between culture and language learning? In a language classroom, teaching a foreign language is not possible without an understanding of the cultural contexts in which the language is used, and without these contexts, language learners cannot fully master the language they are trying to learn (Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017). While this statement once again emphasizes the importance of the relationship between culture and language, it brings up an important aspect of teaching a language as well; the teacher needs to be consciously aware of the cultural contexts in which they teach in order to be successful in having their students learn these contexts. The focus of learning a culture while learning a language should not be on the memorization of cultural facts, but instead should be on having the students learn how to learn about culture, and there should always be a place in the classroom for the study and understanding of culture (Pourkalhor & Esfandiari, 2017). One researcher argues that:

Foreign language learning is composed of several components, or the defined ‘four language skills,’ including grammatical competence, communicative competence, language proficiency, as well as a change in attitudes towards one’s own or another culture. For scholars and laymen alike, cultural competence, i.e., the knowledge of the conventions, customs, beliefs, and systems of meaning of

another country, is indisputably an integral part of foreign language learning.
(Kostadinovska-Stojchevska, 2016, p. 323)

Here we see two pieces of the second language teaching puzzle; the need to incorporate the four language skills into the classroom, as well as the need to teach the language learners cultural competence in order for them to be successful. There appears to be a common theme among researchers and teachers alike, that culture is an integral part of language that cannot be ignored and must be taught in classrooms for language learners to be successful. This cultural competence, or cultural knowledge, is the biggest barrier to language learners' success in the target language (Isbahi, 2017). In short, for the language learning classroom to be successful, students need to be taught the language to understand the culture, and the culture to understand the language.

Cultural Knowledge

Culture shock is a disorienting experience which occurs when an individual comes into the realization that the values and perspectives of an individual or society are not shared by others (Furnham, 2012). Furnham (2012) goes on to clarify that this is a normal stage in any cultural adaptation process that travelers go through and one that they will experience upon spending a significant amount of time in a new country. Another researcher points out that culture shock is a time of psychological distress and demands that the person experiencing it must process many powerful emotions, both positive and negative, and this could be the first time in the individual's life that he or she has had to experience this kind of distress (Saylag, 2014). Saylag (2014) continues his discussion around culture shock by insisting that "the new culture should be studied in as many aspects as possible prior to the actual physical acculturation process. Before entering a

new cultural environment, it is very important for people to prepare as much beforehand as possible” (p. 533). This preparation is considered the acquisition of cultural knowledge, and these two researchers imply that having the knowledge of a culture before living in it will significantly reduce the stress culture shock inflicts on the individual. One researcher noted the effect of culture shock on students when they are presented with a foreign culture, stating:

Students may experience a wide range of feelings when confronted with a foreign language, let alone the culture that it contains....They may experience what is called acculturative stress and experience feeling of marginality and alienation as well as identity confusion. (Kostadinovska-Stojchevska, 2016, p.324)

Therefore, it is not just travelers that experience culture shock but also students who are studying abroad or taking a foreign language class in their home country. The idea of students going through this much emotional turmoil when only being in a country for the length of a school term also furthers the necessity of acquiring cultural knowledge before contact with a new culture. Acquiring cultural knowledge can be done through internet browsing, talking with people who have experience with that culture, and through lessons in a classroom. One study looked at English teaching in rural schools on East Java, and found that, “the English teaching inevitably involves the culture teaching of the target language” (Isbahi, 2017, p. 362). At the end of this study, the researcher concluded that:

All in all, cultural factors play an important role in English teaching. The aim of English teaching is to foster students’ comprehensive English capability by learning language and its culture... By doing so, students can improve their

English comprehensive capacity and cultural communication of the target language. (Isbahi, 2017, p. 364)

Another researcher agrees that cultural knowledge is a defining piece of foreign language teaching, and states, “Foreign language education is by definition intercultural.... The objective of language learning is no longer defined in terms of communicative competence in English (or any other foreign language). English teachers are now required to teach intercultural competence as well” (Kostadinovska-Stojchevska, 2016, p. 325). Both of these studies agreed that teaching cultural competence is imperative in the language classroom, which would imply that there are academic benefits for the students learning the language to also learn the culture.

Academic success is a significant goal that teachers try to help their students achieve. But does cultural knowledge play a role in academic success? One researcher points out that the use of cultural texts in the classroom to teach language creates a more fun and relaxed atmosphere for the classroom (Kostadinovksa-Stojchevska, 2016). Perhaps if students are having more fun in the classroom, they will participate more actively, and therefore be more successful in the classroom. Another researcher points out that the lack of cultural knowledge in foreign language teaching could be detrimental to students’ learning, and states, “Literary texts, that require an additional familiarity with a particular author, genre, period, or style, may be intimidating” (Kramsch, 1993, p. 105). The fact that students need cultural knowledge to understand literary texts and that it can contribute to the enjoyment of a language class are important points for both students and teachers to understand. If teachers do not teach the students the culture behind the texts that teach them language, the students are not going to have the meanings attached to the

language, and therefore not fully understand the language. If they do not fully understand the language, then they are not going to be successful academically or socially.

What if the cultural texts the teacher attempts to use to teach language have cultural references that the student cannot understand without being taught those references? These texts are often filled with words that the students don't know, or maybe they do know the words, but the words are being used in a new context. If cultural reference is piled on top of linguistic challenges, the result creates intimidating texts as the researcher discusses. Teachers need to take into consideration that for students to be successful in a new culture and language, there is a need to teach them cultural references that other students at their age/grade level will already have been taught or exposed to as a person of that culture. There is, therefore, the need to bring popular culture into language learning classrooms to ensure that all second language learners are given the tools they need to be successful in the classroom alongside native speaking peers. But, this then brings up the question, what is popular culture?

Pop Culture

Popular culture, or pop culture, in general terms is “defined as the ideas, perspectives, attitudes, memes, images, and other phenomena that are deemed preferred for acquiring an informal consensus within the mainstream of a given culture....Pop culture is often viewed as being trivial and ‘dumbed-down’ in order to find consensual acceptance through the mainstream” (Kostadinovska-Stojchevska, 2016, p. 325). This definition explores the concept of pop culture broadly, but also highlights a need for an understanding of the types of pieces that make up pop culture, just as we needed to understand that there are multiple pieces of culture itself. It also adds to the discussion the

argument that pop culture is not necessarily smart, but it emphasizes that pop culture allows people to find acceptance in their social environments.

Another definition offered up was, “It is generally recognized as the vernacular or people’s culture that predominates in a society at a point in time” (Delaney, 2007, p. 1). A few other main characteristics of pop culture mentioned by multiple articles are that it: is subject to rapid change, both reflects and influences people’s lives, someone’s style of dress, is easily accessible to the general public, and is informed by the mass media (Delaney, 2007; McAdams, 2014; Hammond, 2014). Pop culture has a variety of genres, including music, film, television, radio, books, internet, news media, and video games (Delaney, 2007). Pop culture is everywhere, and it is everything that people are, do, say, or aim to be. It is the popular way of life, and it is the most advertised way of life.

This all leads to a bigger question, what is the role of pop culture in society? What does it do for people? The biggest piece of this answer is that pop culture is all around people at all times and encompassing of their daily lives. In a sense, it is an inescapable culture that constantly influences the people it touches; but it does so silently. It is not necessarily attributable to one group of people, as multiple groups can have their own pop culture. One article points out the positive influence that pop culture has on society, as it serves as a social ice breaker for people to start up conversations and find commonalities (Hammond, 2014). Another article points out that pop culture “functions to bind together large masses of diverse individuals into a unified cultural identity” (McAdams, 2014). Pop culture allows for a type of social glue to form in society, and, as stated above, it serves to help people feel more unified within their society. Another interesting point brought up in one article is that pop culture allows for individuals to

think about and discuss ideas and topics that are challenging and may normally be avoided (Hammond, 2014). Exploring challenging topics could be an excellent point for arguing that pop culture is a step forward for the academic world, as it would allow for more discussions to be had in class that would increase fluency in the target language.

What is the role of pop culture in academic success? The shift from looking at culture to pop culture in the classroom is still progressing. One researcher points out that teachers began making this shift towards pop culture, instead of high culture (or literary culture) because they now considered pop culture a significant form of cultural production and therefore integral to the teaching process (Lavrenteva & Orland-Barak, 2015). But as stated above, there is potential for pop culture to be used to improve fluency in the language learners by having them discuss topics that may be challenging but still relatable. One researcher points out the need for authentic texts in the classroom, and the benefit that they bring language learners who often find the materials more meaningful and realistic, and therefore more beneficial to the actual language learning process (Kramsch, 1993). Fluency is a big part of language learning, and one study looked at whether a pop culture-based activity would be successful in a classroom of younger learners (Calo, Woolard-Ferguson, & Koitz, 2013). The study used a “Fluency Idol” activity, which entailed using a platform similar to *American Idol*, a famous American singing competition television show, that had the students perform their reading aloud skills with each student reading a piece of poetry aloud at a big performance in front of their classmates. Their study found that the students who participated in the activity showed improvements in their decoding skills and in liking to read aloud (Calo, et. al., 2013). This study opened a door to show that using pop culture

in the classroom can be a fun way for students to want to become fluent in their reading. Beyond this particular case, this shows how teachers can use pop culture references as inspiration to create new materials for the classroom.

The use of culture in a language learning classroom is a need in the academic world. There is a need to understand the culture of the language that the teachers are trying to teach, and for the learners to understand the language they are trying to learn through cultural contexts. Culture and language are so closely intertwined that it is impossible to teach one without the other, but the way in which a teacher goes about teaching culture in the language classroom is where there is still room for growth. Using pop culture instead of high culture in the classroom could allow for more relatability for the language learners. It could also allow for more challenging topics to be discussed, which could in turn develop more language fluency in the learners in the target language. Pop culture referents are myriad and ever changing, allowing for both teachers and students to be evolving in their cultural knowledge as the world evolves in its cultural contexts. For those in the U.S. learning English as a second language or foreign language, or English learners (ELs), the question inevitably becomes: in regard to cultural context and academic cultural references, what cultural items need to be taught for ELs to be successful in the American university classroom?

Research Questions

- Which genres of pop culture act as touchstones for U.S. college students?
- Which pop culture items in each genre are identified frequently enough across all demographic subgroups for inclusion in a language course for international students?

Chapter 2: Methods

In order to get an idea of whether or not any pop culture items were remembered enough to be considered for teaching in a classroom, a survey was proposed. The survey focused on the collection of data on pop culture items that people who grew up in the U.S. could recall from their time in middle and high school.

Setting

Minnesota State University, Moorhead (MSUM) is a mid-sized, suburban college located in Moorhead, Minnesota, and it was founded in 1887. It is an accredited, four-year college which offers 146 majors, minors, and emphases, 15 graduate degrees, 69 certificates and licensures, and 12 online programs (Academics). MSUM also has 414 total international students from 58 countries (International). In addition, MSUM offers an English program for non-native speakers, which allows international students and other non-native speakers of English an opportunity to earn a Certificate of Academic English Proficiency or a Certificate of Proficiency in International English. This program offers culture courses to further educate the international students on cultural classics, like TEFL 107 American Childhood Classics, which “introduces students to texts in all language domains that many, if not most, Americans encountered in childhood and provides background information on the period when the piece was created” (Course Descriptions and Outlines). Another cultural course is offered in this program, called TEFL 207 American Cultural Classics, and it is the next class after the Childhood

Classics course, which covers additional texts that Americans will have encountered and offers strategies to approach them and comprehend them. (Course Descriptions and Outlines).

Participants

The target group was MSUM students who attended middle and high school in the United States. MSUM has approximately 6,000 enrolled students, about 80% of whom are full time students (National Center for Education Statistics). Undergraduates form the majority of the student population, and 82% of them are 24 or younger in age. In addition, 61% of the student population at MSUM are female, and 78% are white (National Center for Education Statistics). There was no available data on socioeconomic status for the MSUM student population at the time of the study. A target of 50 to 100 completed surveys was sought, and a total of 504 surveys were returned.

Materials

The survey instrument was created by the researchers. Survey items asked students to recall popular culture items and events that were their favorites, popular in their schools, or used in their school classrooms during middle school or high school years. All items were open-ended questions, asking participants to provide actual popular culture items rather than selecting them. The survey is available in Appendix A.

Procedures

Permissions and consent. The researchers received approval from MSUM's Institutional Research Board (IRB) to administer and collect data through this survey. MSUM's Office of Institutional Effectiveness provided email addresses of non-international students attending MSUM. A letter of implied consent was attached to the

email that was sent out with the link to the Qualtrics survey. A copy of the letter of implied consent is available in Appendix B.

Data Collection. The survey was sent out through MSUM's Qualtrics program on November 27, 2018, one reminder email was sent out on December 6, 2018, and the survey was closed on December 14, 2018.

Analysis. During the analysis phase, the data were conditioned in order to bring the consistency necessary for efficient coding. Certain answers in the survey were changed to "none" as to clarify results as a whole and avoid unnecessary confusion. The following answers were changed: N/A, n/a, I don't know, IDK, IDFK, idfc, I dunno, I can't remember, I don't like ____, I hate(d) ____, unsure, unknown, I don't remember, none I can think of, none I can remember, nine, not sure, no idea, ?, sorta, kinda, yes, can't think of any, some but not many, a lot, most, too many, sure. Additional items were relabeled for the same reason. If the answer began with "any" or "anything," the response was changed order to classify it better. For example, "anything by Justin Bieber" was changed to "Justin Bieber."

Some responses were aggregated into bigger categories as well, when the responses represented one specific item within a larger series of items. For example, the books *The Hunger Games*, *Catching Fire*, and *Mocking Jay* were all classified as *Hunger Games*. The same was done with *Call of Duty*, the video game, that has multiple renditions of the same general *Call of Duty* series (*Modern Warfare*, *Black Ops*, etc.). In addition, any responses that were close to an item, but perhaps misspelled or identified but not named ("the one with...", "that one book...", etc.) were corrected or clarified to be counted along with the rest of the answers; one example was "poetry by Richard

Frost,” clarified to Robert Frost, and “Greece” being corrected to *Grease*. There were some responses that were answered in such a way that the respondent could be identified, and in order to maintain anonymity, those responses were changed to “none” (one of such responses included an email, in which case only the individual response was removed, not the entire respondent’s survey).

There were errors along the way; some respondents recalled short stories in place of poems, for example, or vice versa. Those answers were left as-is during the initial coding. The last three questions on the survey proved difficult to place into larger categories at times, and if it was possible, they were aggregated into similar groups. In some cases, there were individuals who wrote several sentences in response rather than offering one item or topic; these responses were left as-is and can be seen in Appendix C. However, if the respondent wrote several sentences for their answer, but the response was centered around one item, then the answer was altered to fit that item’s group. For example, one such response was “the impact of the Marvel Cinematic universe on pop culture and film as a whole,” which was shortened down to *Marvel*.

Once the data were conditioned and initially coded, they were then categorized by genre, question, and frequency. This allowed for further comparison of the different categories of questions: favorite, popular, and in-school, in addition to seeing the total tallies for the pop culture items.

Chapter 3: Results

After the three-week data collection phase, 504 surveys were returned. Out of these 504 surveys, four of the submissions were removed as respondents answered that they did not go to high school in the United States (U.S.), and an additional submission was removed because the respondent was neither born in the U.S. nor attended middle school in the U.S. In addition, 148 submissions were removed due to incompleteness, which was deemed as having answered through three or fewer of the genres presented in the survey. In the end, a total of 153 submissions were removed, leaving 351 submissions for this study.

Demographics

In the survey, there were nine demographic questions posed to each respondent. This was done in the hopes of gaining more insight into who was recalling the popular culture items in addition to the popular culture items themselves. Four questions were used to eliminate respondents who did not fit the target group. The remaining five questions targeted characteristics of initial interest: participant age, gender, educational level, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity (Table 1). The majority of participants (86.33%) come from the traditional college-aged groups of 18-21 and 22-25, a characteristic that is reflected in the educational levels of participants, as well, with 92.02% having either a high school diploma, a high school diploma plus some college, or

an associate's degree. More females (71.52%) than males (25.64%) responded, and the majority (84.62%) come from middle class families. Additionally, 89.17% are white.

Question	Responses Available	Responses	% of group
What is your age?	17 or younger	5	1.42%
	18-21	228	64.96%
	22-25	75	21.37%
	26-29	14	3.99%
	30-39	17	4.84%
	40-49	7	1.99%
	50-59	3	0.85%
What is your gender?	60 or older	2	0.57%
	Male	90	25.64%
	Female	251	71.51%
What is the highest level of education you have completed or the highest degree you have received?	Other/No answer	9	2.56%
	High school degree or equivalent (e.g., GED)	68	19.37%
	Some college but no degree	197	56.13%
	Associate's degree	58	16.52%
	Bachelor's degree	27	7.69%
What best identifies your family's socioeconomic status while you were in secondary school?	Graduate degree	1	.28%
	High socioeconomic status	40	11.40%
	Middle socioeconomic status	297	84.62%
	Low socioeconomic status	12	3.42%
With what race or ethnic background do you identify?	No answer	2	.57%
	American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.	1	.28%
	Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam	6	1.71%
	Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black or African American."	2	.57%
	Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term, "Spanish origin," can be used in addition to "Hispanic or Latino."	8	2.28%
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands	1	.28%
	White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.	313	89.17%
	Multiracial/multiethnic.	15	4.27%
Prefer not to answer.	5	1.42%	

Looking back at the statistics for the overall population of MSU Moorhead: where the age group of 24 and under, represents 82% of students, 61% are female, and 78% were white, we can see that the results of this survey are representative of a close picture of the larger student body.

Table 2		
<i>Participant Characteristics and MSUM Student Body Characteristics</i>		
Demographic Item	Participants	MSUM Student Body
Age (18-25)	86.33%	82%
Gender	71.52% Female	61% Female
Socioeconomic Status	84.62% Middle Class	No information available
Ethnicity	89.17% White	78% White

For all tables presenting results on cultural experiences, only the responses with 1% or more mentions are shown and discussed. No responses identified by less than 1% of the participants were included in the tables; if less than 1% of the student population could identify something as significant, then it is probably not highly shared among the group. The overall goal of this project was to obtain a list of pop culture items that represent the group experience of contemporary U.S. college students, and, therefore responses by less than 1% of the target population does not address the goal. A separate table in Appendix C contains all of the excluded responses for those curious about the full list of responses. Tables 3 through 12 present the results genre by genre.

Genres of Pop Culture

The results presented in this section represent the aggregated data from all respondents in all 351 completed surveys. The results also include all answers with more than one response per participant for one question. For example, some respondents put three movies for popular movies: each of the listed items were separated and counted as individual responses. Therefore, the numbers in the tables may surpass the 351 total respondents. The percentages presented in the data tables reflects the varying numbers of total responses within the tables, as well, and do not reflect a percentage of participants, but rather a percentage of responses. All percentages are rounded to the nearest percent. For each table, the structure of the three questions posed per genre are maintained for further categorization of the data.

Poems. The response “none” together with “no answer” account for 75% of all responses on this topic. There were 19 respondents who named a collection of poems, *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein, rather than a single poem. *The Raven* by Edgar Allen Poe was the top-mentioned individual poem by respondents, with 89 responses, or 11%. There were 31 total responses naming various poets rather than poems, and although this is a high number, no individual poet was mentioned more than nine times.

<i>Poems</i>					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	171	227	152	550	70%
The Raven	21	27	41	89	11%
The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost	20	20	33	73	9%
No answer	9	16	14	39	5%
Where the Sidewalk Ends	9	7	3	19	2%
Fire and Ice by Robert Frost	6	1	7	14	2%
	236	298	250	784	

Movies. There were 18 movies mentioned by 2% or more of the respondents. Notice in this genre, however, that the null responses account for only 14% of responses. The movie with the lowest number of significant mentions, with 11 responses, or 2%, was *Grease*. *Avengers*, which had 11% of the responses for this genre, was only mentioned in the in-school category by two respondents. *The Outsiders*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird* were all mentioned exclusively in the in-school category, and not as favorite or popular movies.

<i>Movies</i>					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	9	27	30	66	14%
Hunger Games	7	45	9	61	13%
Avengers	12	39	2	53	11%
Harry Potter	18	23	2	43	9%
Twilight	6	21	1	28	6%
Mean Girls	6	13	7	26	5%
Romeo And Juliet	0	0	24	24	5%
High School Musical	9	13	1	23	5%
Avatar	8	10	3	21	4%
Frozen	3	16	1	20	4%
The Great Gatsby	2	0	19	21	4%
Pitch Perfect	4	12	0	16	3%
The Outsiders	0	0	16	16	3%
Schindler's List	1	0	14	15	3%
Lord of the Rings	9	2	3	14	3%
To Kill a Mockingbird	0	0	12	12	2%
Star Wars	7	4	1	12	2%
Grease	7	1	3	11	2%
	108	226	148	482	

Songs. Over half of the responses, or 56%, were “none.” However, most of the “none” responses were in the in-school category, and the other two sections each had under 50 total “none” responses. There were six individuals who stated a style of music rather than a song, and no song was mentioned more than 16 times. This genre had a large number of items mentioned by less than 1% of the survey population, which explains the lower totals in this table. There were four respondents who agreed on the same favorite song, *You Belong with Me* by Taylor Swift, which is the only song to have more than two respondents choose it as their favorite. There was only one song solely mentioned in the in-school category, *School House Rock*, and four songs only mentioned in the popular category, *Party in the U.S.A.*, *Gas Pedal*, *Thrift Shop*, and *Watch Me*. In addition, six participants listed Rap music as a popular style of music, rather than naming a song.

<i>Songs</i>					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	29	45	154	228	56%
No answer	5	8	13	26	6%
Call me maybe	2	13	1	16	4%
Party rock anthem	0	13	1	14	3%
Baby by Justin Bieber	2	10	1	13	3%
We didn't start the fire – Billy Joel	0	3	10	13	3%
Tik Tok by Kesha	0	8	1	9	2%
Sound of Silence	2	3	4	9	2%
Gangnam Style	0	6	2	8	2%
Firework by Katy Perry	2	3	3	8	2%
You belong with me by Taylor Swift	4	3	0	7	2%
Dynamite by Taio Cruz	0	6	1	7	2%
Shake it off by Taylor Swift	1	3	3	7	2%
Rap	0	6	0	6	1%
Blurred lines	0	4	2	6	1%
School House Rock	0	0	5	5	1%
Party in the USA by Miley Cyrus	0	5	0	5	1%
Radioactive by Imagine Dragons	1	4	0	5	1%
Gas Pedal by Sage the Gemini	0	4	0	4	1%
Thrift Shop by Macklemore	0	4	0	4	1%
Watch me by Silento	0	4	0	4	1%
	48	155	201	404	

Television Shows. The total number of favorite responses in this genre was significantly lower than the popular and in-school categories. The null responses in this genre make up only 34% of the responses, which is significantly lower than other genres. The top two responses, *The Office* and *Friends*, make up 23% of the total responses. *Bill Nye the Science Guy* was only mentioned in the in-school category, but still garnered 3% of the total responses.

<i>Television Shows</i>					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	15	28	135	178	28%
The Office	16	37	22	75	12%
Friends	27	24	18	69	11%
No Answer	11	13	16	40	6%
SpongeBob SquarePants	11	11	8	30	5%
Grey's Anatomy	6	22	2	30	5%
Big Bang Theory	7	11	10	28	4%
Pretty Little Liars	8	18	0	26	4%
Game of Thrones	4	11	5	20	3%
The Walking Dead	3	15	2	20	3%
Bill Nye the Science Guy	0	0	19	19	3%
Supernatural	7	8	0	15	2%
Hannah Montana	7	6	2	15	2%
Breaking Bad	5	6	1	12	2%
Glee	4	7	1	12	2%
One Tree Hill	5	5	0	10	2%
The Vampire Diaries	7	3	0	10	2%
How I Met Your Mother	4	5	1	10	2%
American Idol	3	6	0	9	1%
Criminal Minds	5	3	1	9	1%
That 70s Show	5	3	1	9	1%
	160	242	244	646	

Short Stories. The “none” and “no answer” responses make up 84% of responses in this genre. All other responses were 4% or less. There were two short stories that had 24 total mentions, *The Lottery* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. The most frequently mentioned short story was *The Tell-Tale Heart*. The only short story not mentioned in the popular category was *The Cask of Amontillado*. The only short story not mentioned in the favorite category was *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

<i>Short Stories</i>					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	200	241	169	610	69%
No Answer	42	45	42	129	15%
The Tell-Tale Heart	13	10	16	39	4%
The Lottery by Shirley Jackson	8	5	11	24	3%
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	0	3	21	24	3%
Flowers for Algernon	5	3	8	16	2%
The Most Dangerous Game	5	2	8	15	2%
The Yellow Wallpaper	3	3	7	13	1%
The Cask of Amontillado	4	0	7	11	1%
The Gift of A Magi	3	3	3	9	1%
	283	313	292	890	

Books. “None” was the top answer for this genre, with 20% of the responses, and *Hunger Games* was the most frequently mentioned book, with 17% of the total responses. *The Fault in Our Stars* was primarily mentioned in the popular category, yet still had 4% of the total responses. Only two books were not mentioned in the in-school category, *Percy Jackson* and *Twilight*.

Books					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	31	47	33	111	20%
Hunger Games	12	76	9	97	17%
Harry Potter	20	59	9	88	16%
To Kill A Mockingbird	6	5	44	55	10%
Twilight	5	41	0	46	8%
Of Mice and Men	3	0	19	22	4%
The Faults in our stars	1	20	2	23	4%
The Outsiders	3	2	16	21	4%
Divergent	5	10	2	17	3%
1984 George Orwell	2	0	14	16	3%
The Giver	5	1	9	15	3%
The Great Gatsby	5	6	28	39	7%
Percy Jackson	11	2	0	13	2%
	109	269	185	563	

Memes. “None” responses make up 80% of this genre’s responses. This genre also had a new type of response, “not a thing yet,” which means that the popular culture genre was not around when the individuals were in middle and/or high school; these responses made up 5% of the total responses. The other response that had 5% of the total responses was *Bad Luck Brian*, which had 29 responses.

Memes					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	143	130	212	485	80%
Not A Thing Yet	14	10	7	31	5%
Bad Luck Brian	6	17	6	29	5%
Pepe	3	13	3	19	3%
Grumpy Cat	2	4	9	15	2%
SpongeBob SquarePants	7	5	1	13	2%
Dat Boi	4	4	2	10	2%
Doggo	0	4	4	8	1%
	179	187	244	610	

Games. The respondents named 22 games total. Ten of these are video games, making up 48% of the total responses. Nine of the games listed were card or board games, making up 25% of the total responses. Two responses only showed up in the in-school category, *Kahoot* and *Jeopardy*. There were six games that did not appear in the in-school category: *Mario Cart*, *Fortnite*, *Cards Against Humanity*, *Halo*, *Sims*, and *Just Dance*. There is a notable difference in the most mentioned game compared to the second-most mentioned game, where *Call of Duty* has 20% of the responses, and *Monopoly* only has 7%.

Games					
Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	14	20	95	129	21%
Call of Duty	15	99	13	127	20%
Monopoly	10	8	25	43	7%
Mario Cart	17	9	0	26	4%
Grand Theft Auto	6	14	3	23	4%
Fortnite	2	21	0	23	4%
Mario	8	4	11	23	4%
Cards Against Humanity	6	15	0	21	3%
Skyrim	12	7	1	20	3%
Halo	5	14	0	19	3%
Minecraft	3	5	9	17	3%
Life	7	3	6	16	3%
Super Smash Bros	3	1	11	15	2%
Kahoot	0	0	15	15	2%
Uno	5	3	5	13	2%
Jeopardy	0	0	12	12	2%
Sorry	7	4	1	12	2%
Clue	10	1	1	12	2%
Apples To Apples	5	5	2	12	2%
Bag Toss	8	2	2	12	2%
Sims	9	2	0	11	2%
Risk	4	0	5	9	1%
Scrabble	4	0	4	8	1%
Just Dance	4	4	0	8	1%
	164	241	221	626	

YouTube. This genre again yielded responses of “not a thing yet,” with 3% of the overall responses. The null responses accounted for 75% of the total responses. There was one response solely mentioned in the in-school category, *educational videos*, and one YouTube star, Jenna Marble, which was the only item not mentioned in the in-school

category in Table 11. Two YouTube stars, Jenna Marble and Shane Dawson, were named instead of any of their specific YouTube clips.

Answer	Favorite	Popular	School	Total	Percent
None	127	134	161	422	75%
Charlie Bit Me	10	24	2	36	6%
Vine Compilations	14	10	2	26	5%
Not a thing yet	7	5	5	17	3%
Crash Course	2	0	11	13	2%
Gangnam Style	1	6	4	11	2%
Jenna Marble	9	2	0	11	2%
Music Lyric Videos	3	6	1	10	2%
Shane Dawson	4	4	1	9	2%
Educational	0	0	8	8	1%
	177	191	195	563	

Additional items. This section of questions was used to retrieve any items that respondents thought would be beneficial to ELs, any categories that the respondents' thought had been missed in the survey, and any additional items they wanted to add in a category that had already been said in the survey. Overall, the “none” answer overwhelmed every other response in this section, which could mean one of two things, that they believed the survey was sufficient and covered everything, or they really had nothing left to offer to the survey. *Vine* clips were mentioned 27 times, which made up 5% of the total responses for this last section of the survey, followed closely by “slang” which had 23 responses, or 4%.

Answer	Beneficial Items	Missed Categories	Any extra items	Total	Percent
None	110	180	211	501	85%
Vine	15	8	4	27	5%
Slang	11	10	2	23	4%
Memes	12	3	0	15	3%
Clothing	0	10	4	14	2%
Social Media	3	9	0	12	2%
	151	220	221	592	

Chapter 4: Discussion

This study surveyed participants for three different classifications of popular culture items in the hopes of determining both socially popular as well as academically relevant items because research indicates both are necessary for language learners to be successful (Lavrenteva & Orland-Barak, 2015; Kramsch, 1993; Hammond, 2014). Participants were asked if they could recall a favorite pop culture item, a popular pop culture item, and a pop culture item that was used in school; these three categories were used to determine if the items being recalled were more relevant in certain settings, either as simply something the individual enjoyed, something they remembered as being popular at the time, or something that was only really used in school. This survey began with two key research questions: 1) What types, or genres, of pop culture were important to U.S. college students? 2) Which items within those genres were particularly memorable? The results of the survey provided a large amount of data, demonstrating that people were able to recall a significant number of pop culture items.

For the main questions in the survey, there was the option to say “none” if the respondent couldn’t think of an answer. If a question was left blank, whether intentionally or done by ending the survey early, it was marked as “no answer.” “None” responses could indicate a few things. First, it could indicate that the individual simply could not think of an answer and is equivalent to “no answer”. Second, it could show a lack of exposure to that particular pop culture genre, limiting the available responses for

that person to give. Lastly, it could indicate disinterest in the genre in question. “None” and “no answer” responses together are referred to as null responses.

Poems

Poetry had the second highest number of null responses, with 589 responses across all three categories, or 75% of the total responses. The majority of the null responses are in the popular category, with 243 responses, or 31%, and the smaller percentages are in the in-school category, with 21%, and in the favorite category, with 23%. The highest number of actual responses appeared in the in-school category, with 84 responses, whereas the favorite (56) and popular (55) categories had fewer. The most frequently mentioned poems in this genre were *The Raven* by Edgar Allen Poe with 89 responses, or 11%, followed by *The Road not Taken* by Robert Frost with 73 responses, or 9%. Considering the high frequency of mentions for these two poems studied in school, they should be explained or noted in some way for a literature class. These results suggest that poetry is taught in the schools and people are able to recall what they were taught, but perhaps it is not as popular socially as some other genres appear to be.

Movies

The movie genre only received 66 null responses, and a rather large number of actual responses. There were ten movies with 20 or more mentions, ranging from 4% to 13% of the total responses. The top two most mentioned movies were *The Hunger Games* (61) and *The Avengers* (53), both of which had more than 10% of the responses. Only one movie, *Pitch Perfect*, was listed as a favorite or popular but was left out of the in-school category. There were also a few that were only mentioned in the in-school category, such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Outsiders*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This separation of

answers shows there are some movies that are only used in school settings and not watched for entertainment, while others are only seen for entertainment and not for educational purposes. Clearly, this is a popular culture genre that holds high value among this group of respondents. Therefore, it would be very beneficial to talk about movies as a genre in a culture classroom for ELs. As well as to focus on the nine movies named specifically by the participants.

Songs

Songs received 226 null responses, or 56%, out of the overall responses in this genre. The responses in the favorite category were significantly fewer than the other two, with only 14 responses that were not null responses. The popular category had the most responses, with 102 non-null responses. The in-school category had the highest number of null responses, with 154, and only 34 actual responses. These results indicate that songs are not used in school often, but there is a significant number of songs that can be considered popular. *Call Me Maybe* was the most mentioned song, with 16 responses, and six respondents named a music style rather than a song. A few participants said artists would have been easier to recall than songs, suggesting that some people do not prioritize knowing the titles of songs, but rather who sings them. However, on the whole, the recall of individual songs was easy for most, as participants provided 711 responses in this genre that represent less than 1% of all responses. It does not, however, make a clear and easy selection list for popular items that could be teachable as other categories have.

Television Shows

Television shows had a relatively low number of null responses, with 218 total responses, or 34%, and multiple shows with more than 20 mentions. Television shows would be at the top of a list of things to teach in an ELs pop culture class, with the number of highly mentioned items have come up for this genre in addition to the low number of null responses. The top items were: *The Office* (75 responses, or 12%), *Friends* (69 responses, or 11%), *SpongeBob SquarePants* (30 responses, or 5%), *Grey's Anatomy* (30 responses, or 5%), *Big Bang Theory* (28 responses, or 4%), and *Pretty Little Liars* (26 responses, or 4%). There were five shows that were mentioned as a favorite and popular but not in the in-school category, *Pretty Little Liars*, *Supernatural*, *One Tree Hill*, *The Vampire Diaries*, and *American Idol*. Only one show, *Bill Nye the Science Guy*, that was mentioned solely in the in-school category. Therefore, this demonstrates how some shows are important socially, such as the five excluded from the in-school category, and how a show such as *Bill Nye the Science Guy* is only important academically.

Short Stories

The short stories genre had the highest overall number of null responses with 739 total responses, or 84% of the total responses. The most frequently mentioned short story was *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allen Poe, with 4% of the total responses. The null responses were significantly higher in the favorite (242) and popular (286) categories than in the in-school (211) category. This could indicate a low preference for short stories in society, and even a low usage of them in schools, and, therefore, exposure could be limited. There were two respondents who, at the end of the survey in the question regarding categories of popular culture, stated that they didn't think the poetry or short

stories genre should be included because “midwestern schools are not super great at expanding horizons of students so I have little/no experience with those topics” (Appendix C). There were a few other single-mentioned responses asking what short stories were and why they were included on the survey as well. If these comments represent the experiences and perceptions of the survey population, it is not surprising that there was such a large number of null responses, and only eight short stories mentioned by more than 1% of the respondents. With the high number of null responses and the fact that there were less than 40 responses for any short story listed, perhaps this is a genre that could merely be explained in a literature class rather than taught exclusively.

Books

The book genre had a total of 111 null responses, or 21%, which is the second-least number of null responses after the movie genre. This result shows that it is the second most popular genre in the survey, and it also had five books with over 20 mentions. *Hunger Games* was the top mentioned book series, with 19% of the responses, followed closely by *Harry Potter*, which had 88 responses, or 17%. While these were both series and not individual books, the responses were large in numbers and therefore still relevant. There were more overall responses in the popular category than the other two, but still three books that were mentioned as favorites or used in school but not as popular. There was only one book that appeared as a favorite and used in school but not as popular, *Of Mice and Men*. With the fact that the popular category received the highest amount of responses, 48% of the total responses, and the relatively low number of null responses overall, this can be indicative of a society that does enjoy reading, and of one

that values books. In addition, this implies this genre would need to be taught and discussed in an EL classroom.

Memes

Memes had a high frequency of null responses, with a total of 485 responses. This genre's highest response was that memes were not around when they were in middle and high school, with 31 responses, or 5% of the overall responses. The only other response with 5% of the overall responses was *Bad Luck Brian*. The high number of null responses could be due to the fact that 31 people said that it was not around while they were in school, and a good portion of the null responses could also have been produced for the same reason. This would indicate that when these respondents were in middle and high school that memes were not culturally relevant since they were not around, even if they may be relevant now. The null responses were highest in the in-school category, with 212 responses compared to the favorite and the popular categories, which had 143 and 130 respectively, showing a higher usage in personal and social platforms. Perhaps this is a genre that could be explained in a more basic understanding rather than a comprehensive one in a pop culture course.

Games

The games genre had a low number of null responses, with 129 total responses, or 22%. Although this is lower than some of the other genres, it is still the top response for the genre. There are multiple items with over 20 responses: *Call of Duty* (127), *Monopoly* (43), *Mario Cart* (26), *Grand Theft Auto* (23), *Fortnite* (23), *Cards Against Humanity* (21) and *Skyrim* (20). The *Call of Duty* franchise would be a top choice for a teachable item for ELs, given the high total of responses. This could also go to show the importance

of video games in our culture, since the most frequently mentioned game was a video game. There were seven games that were mentioned in the favorite and popular categories but not in the in-school category, and only two that appear solely in the in-school category. Furthering the idea that games are more important socially rather than academically. There were more responses in the popular category than the other two, though the null responses were much higher in the in-school category than the other two.

YouTube Clips

As with the Memes genre, the same responses scenario appears with the YouTube genre which had 422 null responses, but also had 17 responses that it was not around yet. The top videos mentioned were *Charlie bit me* (36), and *Vine clips* (26). This again could be indicative of cultural relevance instead of preferences, seeing as how there were quite a few respondents who said it wasn't around yet, including the possibility, as mentioned earlier, that a good portion of the null responses could be because it was not around. All three categories were relatively balanced in total responses, and there was only one YouTube clip that appeared solely in the in-school category, *Educational clips*.

Additional Information

In the final few questions, respondents were asked if there were any pop culture references that they thought would be beneficial for an international student to know about, whether or not there were categories that they thought the survey didn't cover and should have, and finally, if there were any additional items they wanted to add in a category that was already mentioned. Looking at these three questions as a whole, the top responses were Vine videos (27) and Slang (23). Though this category had a rather large amount of null responses, 501 total, or 85%, this is indicative that the respondents felt the

survey was complete and didn't need to have more added to it should it be replicated in the future.

Chapter 5: Conclusion

This study began with two research questions. One asked which genres were important enough in American culture that they should be included in a course for international students who wish to live and study in the U.S. Delaney (2007) suggested that important pop culture genres include music, film, television, radio, books, internet, news media, and video games. This study included songs, movies, television shows, books, short stories, poems, internet memes, and You Tube clips in order to cover all the genres Delaney specified. The results show that there are pop culture items in the genres of books, movies, television shows, that have been mentioned frequently enough to suggest that these genres should be taught. Other results suggest that the genres of internet memes and You Tube clips are perhaps best taught as a concept without much time spent on any specific items. Similarly, results suggest that the genres of short stories and poems are best addressed in an academic literature course rather than in a course centered on American culture. Finally, the genres of songs and games suggest that Americans approach these genres with high levels of individual preference and that there are few specific items that teachers should worry about.

There is enough evidence in this report to show that there are certain items that would be worth discussing in class for ELs. A second original research question was posed about whether or not there were any pop culture items that acted as touchstones for the respondents of this survey and which specific items in each genre were significant

enough to Americans that international students would benefit from studying them directly. Three genres carried high significance for Americans: books, movies, and television shows. Specific books that hold high significance for contemporary American college students include the *Hunger Games* series and the *Harry Potter* series, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and the *Twilight* series. Television shows of importance include *The Office*, *Friends*, *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *The Big Bang Theory*, and *Pretty Little Liars*, while movies of importance include the *Hunger Games* series, the *Avengers* series, the *Harry Potter* series, the *Twilight* series, and *Mean Girls*. This report has shown that these specific pop culture items are remembered by a significant number of individuals and do in fact act as touchstones for these respondents. Therefore, any of these titles would warrant attention in a course on contemporary American culture.

Of the pop culture genres that carry less importance with contemporary college students, internet memes and You Tube clips may rise in importance with time, but for now don't warrant inclusion in a class on contemporary American culture. Nevertheless, the less important genres reveal that Americans experience culture in two major settings: academic and social. The internet-based genres are experienced primarily in the social setting, whereas the literary genres are experienced primarily in the academic setting. If teachers wish to create a course in an attempt to bridge these two settings, they may want to select one or two items from each of these genres for inclusion.

There is the possibility also to further analyze the data using the demographic questions to stratify results. Comparisons could be made by age group or gender, for example. Such an analysis could yield new and interesting information for teachers of culture. Further research could also be done by looking more in depth at the responses

provided by less than 1% of the population, especially the questions regarding additional information, to learn what the individuals had to add to the information already provided.

This survey and report could pose as starting points for potential future surveys to be handed out on popular culture items on a larger scale. There were some clear limitations to this study, as the population was limited to Minnesota State University Moorhead students. While 351 completed surveys provided a good amount of data, there would need to be more collected to be generalized across the U.S. as a whole rather than just MSUM's student body. If there is another survey done, the answers from this survey can be compared to or even used to substantiate the new results. Alternatively, other institutions could send this survey out to incoming students in order to identify pop culture items for classes taught at their schools for that current school year, making sure that the information received is relevant to the students arriving to their institutions. This survey has potential to be modified to fit each institution's program needs. By replicating this survey research, more data can be gathered for a richer understanding of what pop culture items are remaining popular amongst students.

In the end, popular culture is clearly important in society, and this report shows that there could be a significant benefit to teaching popular culture items to ELs in the U.S. school systems. Teachers could use this report as reassurance that teaching pop culture in the classroom does in fact benefit the students both socially and academically and teachers can start with the items identified here to create a platform of pop culture genres and items to be taught in their EL classrooms.

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Appendix A: Survey Questions

Survey Questions:

1. What is your age?
 - a. 17 or younger b. 18-21 c. 22-25 d. 26-29 e. 30-39 f. 40-49
 - g. 50-59 h. 60 and older
2. What is your gender?
 - a. Female b. Male c. Other
3. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?
 - a. High school degree or equivalent (e.g., GED) b. Some college but no degree
 - c. Associate degree d. Bachelor's degree e. Graduate degree
4. What best identifies your family's socioeconomic status while you were in secondary school?
 - a. High socioeconomic status
 - b. Middle socioeconomic status
 - c. Low socioeconomic status
5. With what race or ethnic background do you identify?
 - a. American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
 - b. Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
 - c. Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black or African American."
 - d. Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term, "Spanish origin," can be used in addition to "Hispanic or Latino."
 - e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
 - f. White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
 - g. Multiracial/multiethnic.
 - h. Prefer not to answer.
6. Were you born in the United States?
 - a. Yes b. No
7. Did you grow up in the United States?
 - a. Yes b. No
8. Did you attend middle school in the United States?
 - a. Yes b. No

9. Did you attend secondary school in the United States?

a. Yes b. No

Instructions: For this survey, please give one answer per question asked. If you cannot think of an answer, please write "none."

Think back to your middle and high school days. In grades 6 through 12:

1. What was one of your favorite poems?
2. What was a popular poem?
3. What was a poem used in one of your classes in school?
4. What was one of your favorite movies?
5. What was a popular movie?
6. What was a movie that was used/watched/referenced in one of your classes in school?
7. What was one of your favorite songs?
8. What was one of the more popular songs?
9. What was a song that was used/listened to/referenced in one of your classes in school?
10. What was one of your favorite TV shows?
11. What was one of the more popular TV shows?
12. What was a TV show that was used/watched/referenced in one of your classes in school?
13. What was one of your favorite short stories?
14. What was a popular short story?
15. What was a short story that was used/referenced in one of your classes in school?
16. What was one of your favorite books?
17. What was one of the more popular books?
18. What was a book that was used/read/referenced to in one of your classes in school?
19. What was one of your favorite memes?
20. What was one of the more popular memes?
21. What was one of your favorite memes?
22. What was one of the more popular memes?
23. What was a meme that was used/referenced in one of your classes in school?
24. What was your favorite game (video game, board game, yard game, etc.)?
25. What was one of the more popular games?
26. What was a game that was used/played/referenced to in one of your classes in school?
27. What was one of your favorite YouTube clips?
28. What was one of the more popular YouTube clips?
29. What was a YouTube clip that was used/watched/referenced to in one of your classes in school?
30. What would be a pop culture reference that you would think would be beneficial for an international student to know about? Please specify: _____
31. Are there any categories you feel this survey didn't cover that you think are worth mentioning? Please specify: _____
32. Are there any other pop culture items that you feel should be mentioned in a category that has already been mentioned? Please specify: _____

Appendix B: Implied Consent Letter

Dear MSUM student,

You are invited to participate in a study to identify the touchstones of popular culture among contemporary college students in the United States. I hope to learn about what popular culture items were your favorites and what was popular when you were in middle school or high school. You were selected as a possible participant in this study because you are a student who lived in the U.S. in the United States in these particular formative years.

If you decide to participate, please complete the survey. Your return of this survey is implied consent. This survey is designed to discover which cultural items were your favorite, which were popular in your school, or which were used in your school. It will take about 15 to 20 minutes to complete. No benefits accrue to you for answering the survey, but your responses will be used to inform MSUM instructors of popular culture references that international students may need to become familiar with in order to connect with their American peers and may be used to inform college instructors of cultural items to mention in order to better connect with their students. Any discomfort or inconvenience to you derives primarily from the amount of time taken to complete the survey.

Any information obtained in connection to with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and will not be disclosed. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your future relationships with MSUM or the investigators. If you decide to participate, you are free to discontinue participation at any time.

Please feel free to ask questions regarding this study. You may contact me, Margaret (Flaherty) Thoemke, later if you have additional questions at flahertyma@mnstate.edu or you may contact the principal investigator Linda Houts-Smith in the HLCRWS department at houtсли@mnstate.edu and 218-477-4059. Any questions about your rights may be directed to Dr. Lisa I. Karch, Chair of the MSUM Institutional Review Board at 218-477-2699 or by e-mail at: irb@mnstate.edu.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Margaret Thoemke

Appendix C: Survey Responses Mentioned by >1% of Respondents

Topic	Response		
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Poems	Shel Silverstein (7) Do not go gentle into that good night (4) Stopping by woods on a snowy evening (3) Nothing gold can stay by Robert Frost (5) Jabberwocky (4) A dream within a dream – Poe (3) Invictus (3) Self-written (3) Annabel Lee by Edgar Allen Poe (2) Lord Alfred Tennyson Lady of Shallot (2) Still I rise Maya Angelou (2) 59 "I love you' he said aloud, to no one, just to hear what it would sound like." A pearl without price - Anon a world on fire by Bo Burnham All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg An American Prayer An Apple Gathering by Christina Rosetti Andrea Gibson Audiobook by Neil Hilborn Beowulf and Grendel Charge of the Light Brigade Daddy by Sylvia Plath Death Be Not Proud by John Donne Demain des l'Aube by Victor Hugo Dr. Seuss dreams by Langston Hughes Emerson Emily Dickinson, but I identified with I'm nobody! Who are you? Epic of Gilgamesh Falling Up by Shel Silverstein For My Lover Returning to His Wife by Anne Sexton Glaucoma by Rives Grass by Langston Hughes green eggs and ham How do I love thee? Let me count the ways I felt a funeral, in my brain by Emily Dickinson I know why the caged bird sings I Shall Not Live in Vain I wander as lonely as a cloud Identical Ellen Hopkins If by Kipling If There is No Escape	Footsteps (7) Still I rise by Mya Angelou (5) Milk and Honey (4) Jabberwocky- Lewis Carroll (2) Shel Silverstein (2) Stopping by the Woods by Robert Frost (2) A Dream Deferred A Raisin in the Sun Caged Bird Edgar Allen Poe Eldorado Emotional ones Fire and Ice Hope by Emily Dickinson How It Ends by Andrea Gibson If you forget me Invictus Lanyard by Billy Collins Nothing Gold Can Stay - Robert Frost O Captain! My Captain! OCD by Neil Hilborne odyssey Oh, Captain My Captain Paul Reveres Ride Roald Dahl poem roses are red, violets are blue Rupi Kaur (poet) Shakespeare probs Snow by David Berman Sonnet 18 The Fall of the House of Usher The lost son The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere The Tyger by William Blake To this Day by Shane Koyczan 'Twas the night before Christmas What Every Girl Needs to Hear by Rupi Kaur	Do not go gentle into that good night (3) Stopping by woods on a snowy evening (4) Shakespeare (7) Robert Frost (6) Tell-Tale heart – Poe (4) The Odyssey (4) The rime of the ancient mariner (4) Annabel lee (3) Because I could not stop for death (3) Oh Captain my captain (3) Emily Dickenson in school (2) Jabberwocky by Lewis Carrol (2) Nothing Gold Can Stay by Robert Frost (2) Odyssey (2) Ozymandias (2) The Canterbury Tales (2) The Red Wheel Barrow (2) A Raisin in the Sun anyone lived in a pretty how town Beowulf Cask of Amontillado Clothespins on the Line Demain des l'Aube Dr. Seuss Oh the Places You'll Go Dulce et Decorum Est by Wilfred Owen Edgar Allen Poe Emily Dickens by Billy Collins Emily Dickinson's "Hope is the thing with feathers" Falling Up Harlem I carry your heart with me (I carry it in] I heard a Fly buzz - when I died by Emily Dickinson I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Angelou In Flanders Fields - John McRae Invictus Love me like you never loved before Mark Twain Mending Wall Metaphor OCD by Neil Hilborn Oranges by Gary Soto Out of the Dust Paul Reveres Ride Richard Cory by Paul Simon roses are red violets are blue...

	<p>Iliad I've Learned by Omer B. Washington Julius Caesar Leaves from the vine Leaves of Grass Light in The Attic Milk and Honey My hearts in the highlands My November Guest Ode to the West Wind by Percy Shelley odyssey Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats one art Ozymandias- Shelley Paul Reveres Ride Poems by Sylvia Plath Rain Poem by Emily Dickinson Runny Babbitt Rupii Karr Sonnets Spiritual poems written by the people of our faith Splendor in the Grass by Wordsworth The Battle of Bannockburn The Ballad of Reading Gaol The Cremation of Sam McGee The Crickets Have Arthritis by Shane Koyczan The Death of the Ball Turret Gunner The Eel by Ogden Nash The Lays of Ancient Rome The Line The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock The Man in the Arena The Red Wheelbarrow, William Carlos Williams The Rime of the Ancient Mariner The Road Goes Ever Ever On The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam The Sheep Child by James L. Dickey The touch of the master's hand The Walrus and the Carpenter by Lewis Carroll To Santa Claus and Little Sisters To this day, Shane Kyozan Traveling through the dark Warning by Jenny Joseph yeet</p>		<p>Rumi Shel Silverstein Sliver Snow- David Berman songs of innocence Sonnet 18 Shakespeare Success is counted sweetest by Emily Dickinson Sylvia Plath The Battle of Bannockburn The Bells by Edgar Allen Poe The Cask of Amontillado The Cold Within by James Patrick Kinney The Flea The Homework Machine The House on Mango Street The Iliad The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock The Owl and the Pussycat The River - Ralph Waldo Emerson The Tyger- William Blake They focused on books more than poems. We Real Cool</p>
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Movies	<p>She's the Man (5) Forrest Gump (3) The Lion King (3) Titanic (3) Back to the Future (3) Captain America (3) Pirates of the Caribbean (3) Step Brothers (3) The Heat (3) The Notebook (3) 10 Things I Hate About You (2) Alien (2)</p>	<p>Marvel movies (8) 21 Jump Street (6) The Hangover (6) Elf (4) Deadpool (4) The Fault in our Stars (3) Titanic (3) Divergent (3) Inception (3) Napoleon Dynamite (3) The Dark Knight (3) Up (3)</p>	<p>Of Mice and Men (8) Dead Poets Society (7) Saving Private Ryan (7) Elf (5) Forrest Gump (5) Finding Nemo (in grade 10 for biology) (5) The boy in the striped pajamas (5) The Patriot (5) Gattica (4) Monty Python and the Holy Grail (4) The Lion King (3)</p>

<p>Big Hero 6 (2) Clint Eastwood in them. (2) Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (2) Great Gatsby (2) Inception (2) Kingsman (2) Legally Blonde (2) Life of Pi (2) Monsters Inc (2) Mulan (2) Napoleon Dynamite (2) National Treasure (2) Now you see me (2) Pride and Prejudice (2) Princess Bride (2) Rocky Horror Picture Show (2) Safe Haven (2) Saving Private Ryan (2) Scott Pilgrim vs the world (2) Shawshank Redemption (2) silence of the lambs (2) the breakfast club (2) The Lovely Bones (2) The princess bride (2) The Proposal (2) Up (2) Zombieland (2) 1776 17 Again 21 Jump Street A Haunting in Connecticut A league of their own A walk to remember American Sniper Benchwarmers Bill and Teds excellent adventure Black Sheep Blades of Glory Blow Brazil Bronson Caddyshack Cars Cast away Cherry chick flick Christmas Vacation Citizen Kane Clueless Dead Poets Society Deadpool Despicable me Didn't watch movies die hard Dirty Dancing Donnie Darko Dreamer Duel Dumb and Dumber Elf empire of the sun</p>	<p>Black Panther (2) Bridesmaids (2) Clueless (2) Despicable Me (2) Fast and Furious (2) finding nemo (2) Forest Gump (2) Gone with the Wind (2) Iron Man (2) Lord of the Rings (2) Monty Python and the Holy Grail (2) Skyfall (2) Step Brothers (2) Tangled (2) The Incredibles (2) a star is born alien American Pie Annabelle Armageddon Austin Powers Benchwarmers blindsight Breakfast Club Bridge to Terabithia Cast away Dead poet's society Dirty Dancing Django Unchained Easy A Ferris Buller's Day Off Footloose Get Out Goonies Grease grown ups Hairspray How the Grinch Stole Christmas How to Train Your Dragon Infinity War IT (2017) Legally Blonde Lion king? Little Miss Sunshine miracle monster's Inc Mulan National Treasure Never Back Down Never Say Never no answer Precious Remember the Titans Safe Haven Saving Private Ryan Shrek movies Spirited Away Starsky and Hutch coming out and many classmates going to watch it. The Conjuring the fast and the furious</p>	<p>Pearl Harbor (3) The Passion of Christ (3) The Scarlet Letter (3) 12 Angry Men (2) A beautiful mind (2) Apollo 13 (2) Avengers (2) Glory (2) Good Morning Vietnam (2) Good Will Hunting (2) Grapes of Wrath (2) Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows (2) Inside Out (2) Lord of the Flies (2) Miracle (2) Mulan (2) Shrek (2) Super-Size Me (2) The Breakfast Club (2) the hobbit (2) The Princess Bride" (2) Where the Red Fern Grows (2) A Passage to India Amadeus Amazing Grace America, the story of us Back to the future Benji bill and ted's excellent adventure Bill the Nye the Science Guy birds breakfast club Bridesmaids Bridge to Terabithia cars Castaway Catch Me if You can Chronicles of Narnia Daddy Daycare Disney movies on free days. Eight Below Erin Brockovich ET Fahrenheit 451 Fiddler on the Roof Flyboys Frankenstein fried green tomatoes Frozen Gettysburg Gnomeo and Juliet Gone with the Wind Gordon call Hamlet Hercules High School Musical Hotel Rwanda Huckleberry Finn I am the Cheese Infinity War Innocent Voices</p>
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<p>Employee of the Month Encino man, Ever After Fantasia Fargo Fast and furious Fight Club finding nemo Flyboys freedom writers Friday Godfather Gone Girl gone with the wind Good Will Hunting grown ups Happy Gilmore Harvey Herbie Hercules His Girl Friday hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy Hocus Pocus How to Lose A Guy in Ten Days How to Train Your Dragon Hunt for the Wilder people I Feel Pretty In Time Indian Jones and The Last Crusade Indiana Jones Inland Empire Insidious Jaws John Tucker Must Die Jongens Directed by Mischa Kamp Juno Jurassic Park Just Friends Kiki's Delivery Service Legends of the Fall Les Misérables Like Stars on Earth Lilo & Stitch Little Miss Sunshine Marley and Me Mars Attacks Marvel movies Matilda Megamind Miracle Moana Moneyball Monty Python and the Holy Grail Moonrise Kingdom Mr. Nobody Mud My Girl" Pacific Rim Paul Peter Pan (2003) Phantom of the Opera Princess Diaries</p>	<p>The Interview The Martian The Matrix The Revenant the shining Transformers Twister Wayne's World White Chicks White House Down Wreck It Ralph X-Men</p>	<p>Into the Wild It's a Wonderful Life James and the giant peach Jane Eyre Joan of Arc Last of the Mohicans Les Misérables Liberty Kids Lincoln Mary Poppins Mary Shelley's Frankenstein Matrix Men in Black Metropolis Mice and Men Midnight in Paris milo and Otis Moana Mr. Smith goes to Washington National Treasure (One of the only non-course material the school district allowed. I am not sure why they chose that specific movie. Newsies Nim's Island no answer One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest - AP psych operation Dumbo drop Osmosis Jones Othello Pirates of the Caribbean Planet Earth Raising the Red Lantern Remember the Titans Run Lola Run Shakespeare in Love Shawshank Redemption Sherlock Slumdog Millionaire spirited away Sports movies like Rudy Star Wars Step Brothers The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn The Birds The blind side The Book Thief The Crucible The Dark Night Rises The Day After Tomorrow The Fellowship of the Ring The Imitation Game The Incredibles The Karate Kid The Kite Runner The Last of the Mohicans The Martian The Matrix The Maze Runner The Pianist The Rabbit Proof Fence</p>
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<p> Psych the movie Pulp Fiction Rain Man ratatouille Red Dawn Reservoir Dogs Return of the King Robin Hood Schindler's list Scooby-doo Secondhand Lions Seven Brides for Seven Brothers Signs Sixteen Candles Snowpiercer Song of the Sea Southpaw Spaceballs Spirited Away Spy Stardust Step up 2 Storks Tangled The city of ember The Color Purple The Crow The Dark Knight The Fast and The Furious The Fox and the Hound The Greatest Showman The Green Mile The Hangover The Imitation Game The Little Mermaid The Lorax The Martian The Matrix The Messenger: Joan of Arc The Nightmare Before Christmas The Pajama Game The Perks of Being a Wallflower The Revenant The Sand Lot The School of Rock The secret garden the sound of music The Vow Tomb Raider Tommy Boy Toy Story 3 True Grit Tuck Everlasting Unbroken War Horse Warm Bodies What a Girl Wants What Lies Beneath white Christmas Wolf Children wolf of wall street Wonder Woman (2017) </p>		<p> The Road The School of Rock The Secret Garden The Secret of Kells The Shack The Shawshank Redemption the sound of music The wizard of oz Troy Twelfth Night (1996) Twilight Under the Same Moon West Side Story White chicks </p>
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	Xmen Wolverine Zootopia		
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Songs	Bohemian Rhapsody (3) American Idiot (2) Baby by Justin Bieber (2) Blowin in the Wind (2) Bring Me to Life by Evanescence (2) Burnin' Up by Jonas Brothers (2) call me maybe (2) Can't help falling in love by Elvis (2) Chandelier (2) Don't Stop Believing (2) Fireflies by Owl City (2) Firework (2) hey brother by Avicii (2) Idfc (2) If I Die Young by The Band Perry (2) Let her go by Passenger (2) Let It Go by James Bay (2) minority by green day (2) My Time by Bo En (2) One Direction (2) One Time - Justin Bieber (2) Royals by Lorde (2) Sugar, We're Going Down (2) Viva La Vida by Coldplay (2) Yeah usher (2) A little piece of heaven A Thousand Miles by Vanessa Carlton Addicted by Saving Abel August D the last All of Me All Star by Smash Mouth All the King's Horses by Two Steps from Hell all the small things Allentown by Billy Joel Alone Together - Fall Out Boy amazing grace American Pie by Don McLean Anna Sun by Walk the Moon Another Brick in the Wall by Pink Floyd anything but country baby its cold outside Beer for my Horses Before he cheats Beggin' by Magcon Best I Ever Had by Gavin DeGraw Better life Better now post Malone Big Green Tractor Black Dogs Black Magic Blackout by Breathe Carolina Blank Space-Taylor Swift Body like a backroad Born to Die - Lana Del Rey Brittany Spears "Oops I did it again" Brooks and Dunn ain't nothin bout you Burn Fetish by Eyedea & Abilities	Blank Space by Taylor Swift (3) Boyfriend by Justin Bieber (3) Fireflies by Owl City (3) Get low by Lil' John (3) God's Plan by Drake (3) I Gotta feeling by The Black Eyed Peas (3) Low by T-Pain (3) Pop songs (3) Toxic by Brittany Spears (3) What does the fox say? (3) All About that Bass (2) Anaconda - Nicki Minaj (2) Beautiful Girl (2) Closer by the Chainsmokers (2) Despacito (2) Fancy by Iggy Azalea (2) Get Lucky by Daft Punk (2) Grenade (2) Happy by Pharrell (2) Harlem Shake (2) Heathens (2) Just Dance — Lady Gaga (2) Just the way you are (2) Living on a Prayer (2) Love Story by Taylor Swift (2) Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds (2) Right Round by Flo Rida (2) Shut up and dance with me (2) starships by Nicki Minaj (2) Timber by Kesha (2) Trap Queen - Fetty Wapp (2) Uptown Funk - Bruno Mars (2) 24K Magic by Bruno Mars A Thousand Miles Airplanes All of Me Apple Bottom Jeans by Flo Rida Backstreets back Bad Blood Bad Romance Bebe Rexha – Meant to Be ft. Florida Georgia Line Before He Cheats by Carrie Underwood Best I Ever Had by Drake Best of Both Worlds by Hannah Montana Black and yellow Blue by Eiffel 65 Bodak Yellow Body like a backroad Boom Boom Pow by The Black- Eyed Peas Boom Clap by Charlie XCX Bring Me to Life Bulletproof – La Roux Burnin up Jonas bros California Gurls by Katy Perry	blurred lines (2) Bohemian Rhapsody (2) catholic songs (2) dancing queen (2) Dark Horse, Katy Perry (2) Fast Car (2) Gangnam style (2) I Gotta Feeling by the Black-Eyed Peas (2) poker face (2) Pumped Up Kicks (2) star spangled banner Viva La Vida (2) You aint seen nothing yet (2) 1975 99 Luftballons a thousand miles -Vanessa Carlton Africa by toto (for choir) All About that Bass by Meghan Trainor Angels We Have Heard on High Another one bites the dust As long as he needs me Ave Maria Baby- Justin Bieber Back in Black Bad Romance-Lady Gaga ballad of the green beret Beyoncé Blackbird Blank Space" by Taylor Swift Blow Gabriel Blow Breathe Me by Sia Bring Me to Life Call Me Maybe Cats in the Cradle Cecilia by Simon and Garfunkel Colgando en tus Manos Counting Stars by OneRepublic Crazy Rap by Afroman Dear Mama by Tupac Dimelo Don Gato Don't Laugh at Me Don't Call Me Names Don't Stop Believing Dust in the Wind Dynamite by Taio Cruz Eric Whitacre Even if it breaks your heart Eye of the Tiger Fade into You by Nashville Cast Feliz Navidad Firefly - Owl City Florida Keys by beach boys while learning the Florida Keys. She repeated it a million times. For What It's Worth - Buffalo Springfield

<p>California Gurls Car Radio by Twenty-one pilots Cecilia by The Vamps Centuries by Fall out Boy Chalk Outline- three days grace Check yes or no Cheerleader by Omi Cherry Wine Chop Suey Clint Eastwood" by Gorillaz Clocks Closer Country Crash My Party by Luke Bryan Creepin'- Eric Church Crossroads" by Bone Thugs N Harmony Cruise by Florida Georgia Line Crush Cyclone Dance by Day6 Dance with me Tonight by Olly Murs Dani California by RHCP Dark necessities by ted hot chili peppers Day N Nite by Kid Cudi Deer in the Headlights by Owl City Die a Happy Man- Thomas Rhett Disturbia Don't by Ed Sheeran Down with the Sickness by Disturbed Dreams by Cranberries Drops of Jupiter" by Train Drunk on A Plane - Dierks Bentley Elementary School Dropout by Yucky Duster English Fire by Cradle of Filth Enter Sandman Even If Everybody (Backstreet's Back) fall for you by second hand serenade fallen angel fancy Fat by "Weird Al" Yankovic Feel Good Inc by Gorillaz Fifteen Fight Song by Rachel Platten Fire and the flood Fire Burnin' Fishing in the dark Fooling Yourself (Angry Young Man) Formation by Beyoncé Foster the People's "Coming of Age" Garden by Pearl Jam Get Low Get lucky Go hard- Lecrae Gonna Know We Were Here by Jason Aldean Good Feeling - Black Eyed Peas Grand hotel- Regina Specktor Guiding Light</p>	<p>Can't Feel My Face - The Weeknd Can't Stop Won't Stop Caroline by Anime Chandelier (Sia) Cheerleader Crazy Town, Butterfly Creep by Radiohead Cyclone David Guetta - "Titanium" Dimelo Don't by Ed Sheeran Don't Stop Believing Drake Fergalicious Forget you Foster the People's "Pumped Up Kicks" Friends in Low Places G-6 Gold digger by Kanye West Grenade by Bruno Mars Hamilton my shot Hangin' Tough Heathens by Twenty-One Pilots Hello by Adele Hey Soul Sister Hips Don't Lie by Shakira Hit Me Baby One More Time by Britney Spears Hot in Here" by Nelly I Like It Like That by Hot Chelle Ray I love it by Icona pop I want it that way Ice Ice Baby I'll be Missing You" by Puff Daddy Irreplaceable Beyoncé Is this Love? j Cole song Jackson - Johnny Cash John Wall Juju on that beat Katy Perry Anything KESHA Kiss from a rose Kiss Me Thru the Phone Last Resort by Papa Roach Let Her Go by Passenger Let it go Like a G6 Little Boxes By: Malvina Reynolds Lollipop look at my dab by Migos Lose yourself Love the Way You Lie - Eminem Magic Marry Me- Thomas Rhett Meant to Be mega man My House My Love by Justin Timberlake My Name Is</p>	<p>Friday by Carly Jepsen Frozen-Let It Go. (We sang it in choir.) Fun: We are Young Garth Brooks the river Gdfr Flo Rida God Bless America God bless the USA by some country dude Hair" by Cowsills Hamilton happy by Pharrell Williams Heartless by Kanye West Hero of war by rise against Hey Jude by the Beatles Hey there Delilah Holla back girl Hot cross buns Hotel California I Kissed a Girl - Katy Perry I took a pill in Ibiza I'm Just a Girl ice cream paint job Ice Ice Baby -Vanilla Ice I'm Glad You Came I'm just a Bill Imagine - John Lennon Ironic - Alanis Morissette (?) It's a Beautiful Day" Jesus Music John 3:16 Justin Bieber's music Kokomo by The Beach Boys Lazarus by David Bowie Lemonade album by Beyoncé Little Boxes By: Malvina Reynolds Little Drummer Boy - Pentatonix lose yourself Lucy in the sky of diamonds by the Beatles macarena Make a man out of you Man, in the Mirror Maps by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs My House by Flo Rida On my way Only Hope Our Song Pachelbel Canon Pancho and Lefty Panda Paper Planes- MIA Party rock anthem Pompei pop goes the weasel- math equation Quadratic Formula Pop Goes the Weasel Red Barron Revolting Children from Matilda the musical Roar- Katy Perry Royals</p>
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<p>Gypsy Habits by Tove Lo Hall of Fame - The Script Have a Drink on Me Heart shaped box Helena- my chemical romance High School Musical Highway to Hell Hit the Quan Honey I'm home Hot and Cold by Katy Perry How Country Feels How to Save a Life -The Fray Hurricane by Panic! at the Disco I Don't Need A Soul - Relient K I kissed a girl I Lived by One Republic I saw the sign If everyone cared If I Were a Boy In the End Iris It girl It's Time Jesus take the wheel Jolene Joy to the world Jump House of pain Justin Bieber Keep Holding on by Avril Lavigne kitchen sink by Twenty-one pilots L.A. Story Last Resort by Papa Roach Lean on Me by Bill Withers Leavin' by Jesse McCartney let it be by the beetles Like a Match Linkin Park, In the End Little Lion Man Living on The Edge Loch Lommond Lonely Boy by The Black Keys Lord, I need You- Matt Maher Lose Yourself by Eminem Love like woe love song Taylor swift Lovely Magic Make a man out of you Mulan Me Brightside Me by The1975 Mercy Mi Gente by J Balvin Miley Cyrus's Wrecking Ball's album (no particular song) Money Trees - Kendrick Lamar Mr. Brightside My Songs know what you did in the dark Never Alone, BarlowGirl Nickelback No Role Modelz</p>	<p>needed me One Dance One More Time by Britney Spears Only want to be with you Paper Planes- MIA Partition Perfect by Ed Sheeran Poker face Lady Gaga Problem Ariana Grande. Replay by iYaz Ric Flair Drip Ride - Twenty-One Pilots Rockstar by Post Malone Sail by Awolnation Say My Name by Destiny's Child See You Again by Wiz Khalifa ft. Charlie Puth Semi-Charmed kind of life Sexy Back by Justin Timberlake shots SICKO MODE Single Ladies by Beyoncé Stacy's Mom by Fountains of Wayne Started from the bottom Stressed Out by Twenty-one Pilots Sweet Caroline Taylor Swift Teen Spirit" by Green Day Teenage dream by katy Perry Telephone by lady gaga The Show Goes on by Lupe Fiasco Too much Heaven top 40 hits Toto by Africa Turn Down for What We Are Young What Do You Mean? What Makes You Beautiful by One Direction Without U - David Guetta Wrecking Ball by Miley Cyrus Young Dumb & Broke by Khalid Young, Wild and Free snoop Dogg and wiz Khalifa You've got a friend</p>	<p>Run like Hell Silent Night single ladies Sliver Slope Song Smooth Criminal by Michael Jackson So What Some Nights by FUN Somebody That I Used to Know by Gotye ft. Kimbra Soulja Boy Tell 'em Springsteen by Eric Church Star Wars Theme Song Stars and Stripes Forever Sugar, sugar Sweet Child O Mine"- G & R T.N.T Teenage Dream by Katy Perry The Bad Touch by Bloodhound Gang The Beatles The formula song The party's over The Preamble by school house rock The Ring of Fire by Johnny Cash The Time's They Are Changin' Tik Tok by Kesha Tonight's Going to Be a Goodnight Under the Bridge by Red Hot Chili Peppers Vamos a la Playa Vivaldi's seasons Wagon Wheel by Darius Rucker We will, rock you What do you mean? What Does the Fox Say? Whatever You Like — T.I Where is the Love? white and nerdy by weird al Yankovic parody's</p>
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<p> Not Over You" by Gavin DeGraw Nothing Else Matters - Metallica Notorious BIG: Gimme the Loot Oceans - Hillsong Oh Comely by Neutral Mill Hotel One by Metallica One thing One, Ed Sheeran Oops I did it again-Britney Spears Ordinary Girl by Hannah Montana Our Song- Taylor Swift Ours-Taylor Swift. Paramore - "Misery Business" Perfect by Ed Sheeran Piano Man Pink Triangle by Weezer pocket full of sunshine Pontoon by Little Big Town Pumped Up Kicks pyromania Radioactive records on by Corinne Bailey Rae REFS - Packy Religious hymns rent revolution radio Rihanna Umbrella Roundtable Rival Run this town - Jay-Z Runaround Sue by Dion Sandstorm- Darude Savin' Me by Nickelback Savior in the clockwork by Avantasia Sean Kingston - Fire Burning See You Tonight Shake It Off Shut Up and Dance SICKO MODE Side Effects by Chainsmokers Simple Man Skater Boy Smells Like Teen Spirit Some Nights by FUN Somebody's Hero Something in the Water by Carrie Underwood Springsteen- Eric Church Stairway to Heaven Starboy Stay - by Rihanna Stay by Mac miller Stay Together for the Kids — Blink 182 Strange Fruit By: Billie Holiday Stressed Out by 21 Pilots Stuck Like Glue Summer Air summer of 69 Sunny Came Home Survival Suavecito by Malo Sweet Baby James </p>		
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	<p>Take Care Takedown Taylor Swift Telephone by lady gaga the best of both worlds The Climb - Miley Cyrus The Final Countdown The Graveyard Near the House The Night Chicago Died The Only Exception by Paramore The Outsiders The Pink Panther Theme The Proof of Your Love by For King and Country The Red by Chevelle The Rose The Sound of Silence The Sound of Silence by Disturbed The Thunder Rolls The Unforgiven Themata - Karnivool Thinking Out Loud by Ed Sheeran This Love by Maroon 5 three days grace Thunder Tik tok Till the Stars Fall from the Sky Time by the Electric Light Orchestra Tool Assisted Speedcore touch by daft punk Toxic Treat You Better Umbrella Uncle Bulgaria by Fraxure Under a Paper Moon by All Time Low Under Pressure by Queen Under the bridge Untouchable Face by Ani DiFranco Valerie-Amy Winehouse Vienna by Billy Joel Wake Me Up - Avicii waking the demon We Found Love by Rihanna We get on by Kate Nash Welcome to the Black Parade Welcome to the Black Parade by My Chemical Romance What Hurts the Most by Rascal Flatts What is this feeling by Wicked What makes you beautiful, one direction When I'm gone When the Sun goes down Whiskey lullaby Why Not by Hilary Duff Work -asap Ferg You Need Me, I Don't Need You</p>		
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
TV Shows	<p>Family guy (7) Doctor Who (6) Parks and Recreation (6) Gilmore Girls (5)</p>	<p>Jersey Shore (7) Drake and josh (4) Shameless (4) iCarly (4)</p>	<p>CNN News (6) Myth busters (5) The Simpsons (4) CSI (4)</p>

Gossip Girl (5)	The Simpsons (3)	Shark Tank (3)
Psych (5)	90210' (3)	60 Minutes (2)
Once Upon a Time (4)	13 reasons why (3)	All in the Family (2)
Drake and josh (3)	Orange Is the New Black (3)	America the story of us (2)
Adventure Time (3)	Riverdale (3)	Channel 1 News (2)
American Horror Story (3)	Simpsons (3)	Doctor Who (2)
Bones (3)	South Park (3)	Family Guy (2)
Castle (3)	The Voice (3)	Grey's Anatomy (2)
little house on the prairie (3)	Modern Family (3)	Hannah Montana (2)
Saved by The Bell (3)	Awkward (2)	I Love Lucy (2)
Seinfeld (3)	Family Guy (2)	Jeopardy (2)
Steven Universe (3)	Gilmore Girls (2)	Liberty Kids (2)
The Wizards of Waverly Place (3)	Gossip Girl (2)	Lord of the Rings (2)
Avatar the last Air Bender (2)	Keeping up with the Kardashians (2)	Numbers (2)
Fixer Upper (2)	Mash (2)	One tree hill (2)
Gravity Falls (2)	Parks and Recreation (2)	Sherlock (2)
House (2)	Sherlock (2)	Switched at Birth (2)
Jimmy Neutron (2)	Survivor (2)	The Men Who Built America (2)
Law and Order SVU (2)	Teen Mom (2)	The Twilight Zone (2)
Lizzie McGuire (2)	That's so Raven (2)	The Walking Dead (2)
Naruto (2)	Total Drama Island (2)	The West Wing (2)
NCIS (2)	Adventure Time	veggie tales (2)
Shadow hunters (2)	Alf	13 Reasons Why
Sherlock (2)	America's Got Talent	Andy Griffith
Survivor (2)	Arrow	Between the Lions
Teen Mom (2)	Austin and Ali	Bones
Teen Titans (2)	Boy Meets World	Brady Bunch
Teen Wolf (2)	Dancing with the Stars	Brain Games
The Middle (2)	Dawson's Creek	Breaking Bad
The Simpsons (2)	Dexter	Buffy the Vampire Slayer
The Suite Life of Zack and Cody (2)	Duck Dynasty	Charlie brown
This is Us (2)	Dukes of Hazard	Criminal Minds
Yu-Gi-Oh (2)	Ed, Edd, and Eddy	Degrassi
Zoey 101 (2)	ER	Designated Survivor
90210	Friday Night Lights	Drake and Josh
AFV	Full House	ER
agents of shield	Good luck Charlie	Extra
Arrow	Hawaii 5-0	Full House
Awkward	House	Gilligan's Island
Big Brother	How to get away with murder	Glee
Blacklist	In the 90s, moderately.	Gossip Girl
Bobs Burgers	King of Queens	Happy days
BoJack Horseman	Lizzie McGuire	House
Buffy the Vampire Slayer	NCIS	House hunters
Catfish	Rick and Morty	How I Met Your Mother
Cowboy Bebop	Seinfeld	Jersey Shore
CSI	sports center	Law and Order
Dawson's Creek	Stranger Things	M.A.S.H.
dead like me	Sunday Night Football	Magic school bus
Degrassi	Teen Wolf	Making a murderer
Desperate Housewives	The Bachelor	modern family
Downton Abbey	the Bachelorette	Monty Python's Flying Circus
Dr. G medical examiner	The Brady Bunch	my 500-pound life
Dragon Ball Z	The News	Once Upon a Time
Dual Survival	the secret life of the American	Oprah
Duck Dynasty	teenager	PBS Shows
Ed, Edd, and Eddy	The Suite Life of Zac and Cody	Picket Fences
ER	The Suite Life on Deck	Planet earth
Forever	True Blood	power of one
Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Two and a Half Men	Reading Rainbow
Full House	why don you just f***** die already	Recess
Futurama	Wizards of Waverly Place	Roots

	<p>Gargoyles Ghost Hunters Good Luck Charlie Great British Bake Off Grimm Growing pains Heartland Hogan's Heroes Home Improvement I love Lucy iCarly impractical jokers Inuyasha It Crowd Jane the Virgin Jeopardy Jersey Shore Journey to the West Kim Possible lost Lost Tapes M.A.S.H Mad Men medical examiner Orange is the new black Phineas and Ferb Rick and Morty Riverdale Saturday Night Live Say yes to the Dress Scooby-doo Scorpion Shameless Simpsons Star Trek (Original) Star Trek Next Generation Star Wars Stargate SG1 Step by Step Stranger Things Suite Life of Zach and Cody Switched at Birth Teen Nick The 100 The love boat The News The OC The Voice Twin Peaks Untold Stories of the ER Will and Grace Young Justice</p>		<p>Scandal Seinfeld Shameless SNL South Park Stranger Things Super Nanny Survivor. That 70's show The Magic School Bus The Sing-Off Whose Line Is It Anyway? why you gotta be such a b**** Wizards of Waverly Place</p>
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Short Stories	<p>The Necklace" By Guy De Maupassant (3) Chicken Soup for the Soul (2) love story (2) The Canterbury tale (2) The Metamorphosis (2) The Scarlet Ibis - James Hurst (2) A Good Man is Hard to Find A Horseman in the Sky</p>	<p>Chicken Soup (2) Rip Van Winkle (2) Stephen King (2) The Most Dangerous Game (2) An occurrence at owl creek bridge Beowulf Cask of Amontillado Cat in the Hat Goosebumps</p>	<p>The Monkey's Paw By W.W. Jacobs (5) The Raven (4) The Necklace" By Guy De Maupassant (3) Animal Farm (2) Harrison Bergernon (2) Hills Like White Elephants" by Ernest Hemingway (2)</p>

	<p>A Telltale Heart Aesop's Fables All Summer in a Day An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge Animal Farm apples of gold bone by Jeff Smith Cask of Amontillado Cat in the Hat Ethan Frome Goosebumps Hills Like White Elephants How to Talk to Girls at Parties - Neil Gaiman I Have No Mouth and Must Scream I, Rocket Jekyll and Hyde John Henry Kurt Vonnegut's "Harrison Bergeron" Lamb to The Slaughter by Roald Dahl Little red hen my biography Princess and the Pea Ray Bradbury Ray Bradbury The Martin Chronicles Skeleton crew book- Stephen King Something by Mark Twain Sound of Thunder Story of an Hour The birds The boogeyman the cat in the hat The Dolls House The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath The Fall of the House of Usher The Fox and the Hare the giving tree The Goblin Market by Rossetti The Great Gatsby The House that Love Built The Long Walk by Richard Bachman The Monkey's Paw The Murders in the Rue Morgue The night before Christmas The Old Man and the Sea the one where the guy tastes bitter almonds and gets murdered The pit and the pendulum The Secret Life of Walter Mitty The story of an hour To Kill a Mockingbird Toad and Frog Trifles Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?</p>	<p>Great Gatsby green eggs and ham by Dr. Seuss Hills Like White Elephants by Ernest Hemingway home burial Junior B Jones Lord of the Flies Of Mice and Men One Art Poe Romeo and Juliet Shakespeare slender man Story of an hour The Canterbury tale the fault in our stars The Fox and the Hare The Lady or the Tiger The Mask of the Red Death The Mockingbird The Necklace The Pit and the Pendulum The Raven The story of Anne Frank The things they carried Winnie the Pooh</p>	<p>Ray Bradbury Rocket Man (2) Story of an Hour (2) The Fall of the House of Usher (2) The Old Man and the Sea The Scarlet Ibis by James Hurst (2) There Will Come Soft Rains by Ray Bradbury (2) To Build a Fire- Jack London (2) A Good Man is Hard to Find A Midsummer Night's Dream A Rose for Emily All Summer in a Day An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge by Ambrose Bierce Bells bells bells Casey at bat cat in the hat Dance House Dark They Were, and Golden-Eyed Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde Edgar Alan Poe stuff Goodman Brown" by Nathaniel Hawthorne H.P. Lovecraft stories Hamlet/Romeo and Juliet/King Lear. We did a lot of Shakespeare. I know it's not technically short story, but it was treated as such. Mark Twain My car won't stop! Night Of Mice and Men Rikki-Tikki-Tavi - Rudyard Kipling Rip Van Winkle Short stories by Stephen King and Poe Sound of Thunder Stephen King The bass, the river, and Sheila Mont The Black Cat The Blue Hotel The Canterbury tale The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County The Devil and Tom Walker The Fox and the Hare The Giver the giving tree The House on Mango Street The metamorphosis The Minister's Black Veil The Odyssey The Office The one about a butterfly getting hit by a car The Pearl The Pit and the Pendulum The Secret Life of Walter Mitty The Sound of Thunder by Ray Bradbury The story of Anne Frank</p>
	Favorite	Popular	In-school

Books	<p>Lord Of The Rings (6) The Mortal Instruments (6) Looking For Alaska (5) The Book Thief (5) City Of Bones (4) Eragon (4) Inkheart (4) The Perks Of Being A Wallflower (4) Catcher In The Rye (3) Pride And Prejudice (3) The Things They Carried (3) 1984 (2) A child called it (2) Anne of Green Gables (2) Artemis Foul (2) Dante's Inferno (2) Frankenstein (2) Goosebumps book series or R.L Stine books (2) Hush Hush (2) Inheritance Cycle (2) Nancy Drew (2) Pretty Little Liars (2) Sweet Valley High (2) the bible (2) The Night Circus (2) Warrior Series by Erin Hunter (2) a Book about Auschwitz 20,000 leagues under the sea A Series of Unfortunate Events A Twisted Ladder After Alex Rider Alice's Adventures in Wonderland An Abundance of Katherines Animal Farm Anything by Abbi Glines Anything written by Jodi Picoult April Morning Aragon Aton Beautiful Creatures by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl Beautiful Disaster Between the Sundays Black Beauty Burned by Ellen Hopkins Catching Fire Charlotte's Web Charms for the Easy Life Crank Dear John by Nicholas Sparks Diary of a Wimpy Kid Dracula each little bird that sings Enders Game Face on the milk carton fangirl by rainbow Rowell fault in our stars Fire by Kristin Cashore Flawed Dogs Flowers for Algernon</p>	<p>Game Of Thrones (3) A Child Called It (2) Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2) Eragon (2) Great Gatsby (2) Lord of the Rings (2) Maze Runner (2) Percy Jackson (2) Pretty Little Liars (2) series of unfortunate events (2) the bible (2) The outsiders (2) After Anything with pictures Beartown Geronimo Stilton Girl on the Train Goose Bumps Hillary Jordan's "Mudbound" If I stay Interview with a Vampire John Green Looking for Alaska, Milk and Honey Misery Nicholas sparks Paper Towns, John Green Red Rising Roots Sarah Dessen books (girls) Selection Stephen King Tale of Two Cities Th Fault in Our Stars The Book thief The Catcher in the Rye The Clique series The Girl on The Train The Giver The Glass Castle The Hate U Give The Help by Kathryn Stockett The Hobbit The Kite Runner The Last Song by Nicolas Sparks The Nancy Drew Stories The Notebook The one where George kills Lenny Uglies by Scott Westerfeld Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen Where the Red Fern Grows</p>	<p>Catcher In The Rye (7) Frankenstein (7) Lord Of The Flies By William Golding (5) Grapes Of Wrath (4) Huckleberry Finn (4) Night By Elie Wiesel (4) Romeo And Juliet (4) The Kite Runner (4) The Scarlet Letter (4) Farenheit 451 (4) Hatchet, Gary Paulson (3) The Crucible (3) The Hobbit (3) A Child Called It (2) And then there were none (2) Animal Farm (2) Bible (2) Canterbury Tales (2) Divergent Series (2) Flowers for Algernon (2) Shakespeare (2) The book thief (2) The fault in our stars (2) The Grapes of Wrath, (2) The Iliad (2) the magician's nephew by c. s. Lewis (2) The odyssey (2) Tuesdays with Morrie - Mitch Albom (2) Until They Bring the Streetcars Back (2) 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea 7 People You Meet in Heaven a Book about Auschwitz A Brave New World Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt After All Quiet on The Western Front All the King's Men Among the Hidden April Morning Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo Beowulf Count of Monte Cristo Dante's inferno Don Quixote Dracula Ellie Field of Dreams Giver Go Set A Watchman Great Expectations by Charles Dickens Grendel Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad Hillary Jordan's "Mudbound" Hobbit Holes Iliad" by Homer</p>
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<p>Gallagher Girls Giver Gravity's Rainbow Great Gatsby Green mile Grendel Handle with Care Hillary Jordan's "Mudbound" Hollow Kingdom Identical I'll Give You the Sun I'll Scream Later by Marlee Matlin Interview with the Vampire by Anne Rice It's Kind of a Funny Story Jane Eyre Junie b jones Jurassic Park Karen Kingsbury Kira Kira - Cynthia Kadohata Le Premier Jour by Marc Lévy Life of Pi Little Brother - Cory Doctorow lock and key Maximum Ride Maze Runner mocking jay My Sister's Keeper mysterious island Nineteen Minutes Number the Stars by Lois Lowry Once Upon a Marigold Open Season by C.J. Box Panic Perfect Chemistry Prince of Thieves by Chuck Hogan Princess bride Runaway Juror Satch and Me series of unfortunate events Shiloh Shiver So B It sold by Patricia McCormick Solver Canyon by Louis L'Amour Someone Like You - Sarah Dessen Squire by Tamora Pierce Stephen King The 39 Clues The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn The Apprentice The Artemis fowl series The Awakening The Best of Me The Candy Makers The Catcher in the Rye The Choice by Nicholas Sparks The Chronicles of Ancient Darkness: Wolf Brother The Dark Half The Doors of Perception The eternal ones</p>		<p>In Cold Blood by Truman Capote into the wild Jane Eyre Kite Runner Life of Pi lightning thief Little Brother Lord of the Rings/ Memory Boy metamorphoses Mudbound Native Son Old man and the Sea Persepolis Pride and Prejudice railroad children Rebecca Sword in the Stone Tale of two cities textbooks The Bell jars The Call of the Wild The Color Purple the Dictionary The Martian Chronicles The Old Man and the Sea the perks of being a wallflower The picture of Dorian Gray The Plague by Albert Camus the Quran The Sweet Hereafter The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brian things fall apart Tom Sawyer Twilight Where the Red Fern Grows Wonder</p>
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	<p>The Fault in Our Stars The fifth wave The Finishers The Fire Within by Chris D'Lacey The Forest of Thorns and Teeth // The Grisha trilogy The Genealogy of Morals - Friedrich Nietzsche The girl on the train The Grapes of Wrath The Handmaids Tale The Hobbit The House of Night Series the kin of Ata are waiting for you The Kite Runner the knife of never letting go The Little Prince The Monstrumologist The Nancy Drew stories The Notebook The Odyssey The Poisonwood Bible The Ranger's Apprentice by John Flanagan The red queen The Rescue The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett The Selection The shadow children series. The Stone Monkey by Jeffrey Deaver The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo The Thin Executioner The Trumpeter of Krakow by Eric P. Kelly The unbecoming of Mara dyer The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin Thief of Always Thirteen Reasons Why" by Jay Asher This is how is ends The Late home comer Throne of Glass series by Sarah J Maas Tigers Curse (the series) True Grit Tuck Everlasting Unbroken Unwind Wheel of Time series by Robert Jordan When You Reach Me Winger by Andrew Smith</p>		
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Memes	<p>Kermit (3) Vine (3) Arthur Fist (3) Cat (3) Rage Comics (3) animal memes (2) Can Haz Cheezeburger cat (2) Grumpy Cat (2) Nicholas Cage - you don't say face (2)</p>	<p>What Are Those (5) Kermit (4) Vine (4) Dabbing (4) Arthur Fist (3) Damn Daniel (3) Gangnam Style (3) Harambe (3) Cash me Outside (2)</p>	<p>One Cannot Simply... (3) Catholicism (2) Dat boi (2) science memes (2) Students went through a big YEET!! phase in 9th grade. Then it just died. (2) willy Wonka meme (2) Advice Animal</p>

<p>One Does Not Simply (2) Rick Roll (2) road work ahead, I sure hope it does (2) standard 2012 memes (2) the office related (2) Thinking math woman meme (2) What Does the Fox Say? (2) Why Are You Buying Clothes at The Soup Store?! (2) abstract memes Ain't Nobody Got Time for That Angry Cat Antivaxxer memes Ash Trollface awkward penguin Chris is that a weed? I'm calling the police! chubby bubbles Chuck Norris memes Clean ALL the things! Confused Black Girl Damn Daniel Dank Ones Didney Worl Doge Elf on a Shelf ermagerd F*** I can't believe you've done this" food review Forever Alone Gavin Gazing Boyfriend Guess I'll Die Hey [B]jeter Hi, I'm the Wicked Weiner" hide your kids hide your wife http://epicrapbattlesofhistory.wikia.com/wiki/File:Black_guy_question_marks.jpg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuNRzo9REH8 I almost dropped my croissant I crave that mineral I don't understand this meme and at this point I'm too afraid to ask" I have the high ground I smell like beef If you're already late... take your time. you can't be late twice illuminati Impossibru (Yao Ming) In the way guy Italian mocking hand Kayne West at the VMAs Kazoo Kid Law and Order SVU Lolcats look at all those chickens" Mckayla Maroney Me Gusta mmmm chicken nuggets</p>	<p>Howbowdah (2) Deez (2) Left Shark (2) Look at all those (2) chickens (2) Me Gusta (2) One Does Not Simply (2) Planking (2) Rage Comics (2) standard 2012 memes (2) trollface (2) U Mad Bro (2) Actual Cannibal Shia LaBeouf Aint nobody got time for that anything anti-Logan Paul Asking your mom how to cook a 25-pound turkey in the microwave Badger Badger Badger beginnings of emojis -- (: Blinking man Caveman SpongeBob Challenge Accepted Charlie bit Me Drake dancing to hotline bling Ellen's Oscar Selfie epic fail ermahgerd Expanding Brain F*ck your chicken strips Food machine broke Fortnite Fresh avocados FUUUUUUUUUUUUU Girl crying Honey Badger memes I almost dropped my croissant I Can't Believe You've Done This" Icanhazcheezeburger It Jared Leto hugging meme Kayne West at the VMAs Keep Calm and [insert] On Le epic" Little girl Michael Cera running Moths Nicholas cage Obama and Biden October 3rd meme from Mean Girls Ones with that guy from the Notebook Overly Attached Girlfriend Pikachu meme Pizza Rat. Presidential Debate "Cus you'd be in jail!" - Donald J. Trump Rickrolling someone Savage Ones Scumbag Steve Sexy Mugshot Shut up and take my money Starter Pack Tag yourself</p>	<p>and they were roommates Angry Cat Any meme that involved government for my gov. class Apparently Kid Baby with the Fist back to school necklace Blue/Gold Dress. cat the one with the white cat (?) sitting with his arms out change my mind Deal with it glasses Ermahgerd Facebook mom memes Forever Alone Fortnite Gavin Guy on a Buffalo Keep Calm and [insert] On Kermit Frog sipping the tea "none of my business" Lying guy Math equation me gusta Minions Nyan cat October 3rd old advertisements/posters Old top text bottom text memes Philosaraptor Political memes Prepare yourself, finals are coming Rick Roll Sneezing Panda SpongeBob Mocking Star Wars- "Don't underestimate my power" success kid The black/blue or white/gold Dress The Office memes The 'starter pack' meme They Were Not. Those national geographic voiceovers U Mad Bro vines We combined spoderman with a teacher named Mr. Soderberg to make him Spoderberg Wearing clothes Y u no You can do it baby You shall not pass</p>
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	<p>Napoleon Dynamite Netflix and Chill No answer One picturing a women at a well wishing to be unreasonable to men, the well turns her into a trophy mule deer. overly attached girlfriend Paranoid Penguin Pharrell's Hat philosoraptor Planking Poot Lovato Porgs Running Man Sarcastic Wonka Scary Maze Game Shrek Socially awkward penguin Sprite Cranberry Commercial Success Baby meme Suddenly Clarity Clarence sure Jan Take all my money Taxidermy cat Ted Cruz is the zodiac killer Thanks Obama and the cookie Thanos memes The baby holding sand in its fist The one with the baby throwing down weights The Pun Husky The Skeleton War TheLegend27 this is fine" *everything burning down around you* Thoughts of Dog throws plate of Kraft Mac and cheese at the wall "I TOLD YOU I CAN'T EAT SPICY THINGS" Thumbs up triggerd Troll face Try to not to laugh videos U Mad Bro Ugandan knuckles Wearing clothes What are thoseeeee You eat all my beans" You know I had to do it to em Your chicken was so rubbery, Good Year called and asked for the recipe" You're not my dad</p>	<p>The Bedroom Intruder The levels of knowledge(?) one The ones that were just heads that had a silly saying The succ The Unfaithful Boyfriend meme They did surgery on a grape Thinking Dinosaur this thing empty, yet Tobuscus Song Trailers triggerd troll memes Tumblr text posts Wearing clothes Willy Wonka Yeet You don't say your moms a hoe</p>	
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
Games	<p>Super Mario 3 For NES (6) Assassin's Creed (5) Legend Of Zelda (5) Catan (4) Kingdom Hearts Series (4) Pokemon (4) Fallout(4) Chess (3) Solitaire (3)</p>	<p>Football (4) Guitar Hero (4) Catan (3) 2K (3) Madden Football (3) Trouble (3) Wii Sports (3) Assassin's Creed (2) Battlefield (2)</p>	<p>Oregon Trail (7) Bingo (6) Dodge Ball (5) Heads Up Seven Up (4) Spoons (4) Cribbage (3) agar.io (2) Apples to Apples (2) Bean bag toss/cornhole (2)</p>

<p>Undertale (3) Yahtzee (3) Balderdash (2) Bocce Ball (2) Chinese Checkers (2) Destiny (2) final fantasy (2) Fortnite (2) Guitar Hero (2) Mario bros (2) NBA 2k (2) Poptropica (2) Red Dead Redemption (2) soccer (2) Stardew Valley (2) Ticket to Ride (2) trivia pursuit (2) 13 American Idol for Wii Animal Crossing: City Folk Backgammon backyard baseball the game on my Gameboy badminton Battlefield 2 Battleship bingo Bioshock Infinite Candy Crush Card games (hand and foot) Catch Phrase centipede Checkers Civilization V Clash of Clans Cool Math Games Dance dance revolution Diablo 2 Ditch Dodgeball Dr. Mario Dustforce DX Dutch Blitz Egyptian War, sometimes called Sandwich. Fable 2 flappy bird Football freeze tag ghost in the graveyard Hay Day-phone app Idiot (Norwegian Card game) Journey (ps3) Kong's corner Ladder ball Lego Indiana Jones Lego Nintendo DS Games Lemmings (original game) Mad Gab Mancala Mass effect 2 metal gear solid</p>	<p>Beer Pong (2) bingo (2) Corn Hole (2) Destiny (2) Fallout (2) Pokémon Go (2) Sims (2) Twister (2) Video Games (2) 4 Square basketball bike race binge drinking Candy crush Chess clash of clans Clue CSGO Hay Day - phone app Headbands Heads Up kickball League of Legends Mario Party Mattball Mortal Kombat video game NES Ninja Nintendo 64 Double 007 P&A Pacman PS4 video games Relationship games Rummy Spoons Star Wars Battlefront 2 Super Smash Brothers Trivia Crack trivia pursuit Undertale volleyball wall ball Words with Friends Xbox</p>	<p>Cards (2) Charades (2) Checkers (2) Dance Dance Revolution (2) Guitar Hero (2) human knot game (2) Speed (2) 2k 7 up Appletters Assassin's Creed Axis & Allies Basketball Bloxxorz board games Borderlands Capture the Flag cards against humanity Catan Catch Phrase game Chess clue Cool Math Games Cranium Craps (casino dice) Duck Duck Grey Duck/Red Rover flag football hangman Hour of Code Jumanji Ladder Golf Lemonade Stand on CoolMath Games Magic Mattball Mexican Train Munchkins NBA 2k night at the museum Number Munchers P&A pacman Paper.io Pictionary Pokémon games in general Poker Pong prayer racket ball Red Robin Shoots and Ladders silent ball Skyrim Sonic the Hedgehog Sorry Sparkle Spike ball Stock market game Terraria Texas Hold 'em Trivia Crack Undertale</p>
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	<p>Nancy Drew computer games Nascar 2005 Chase for The Cup NFS Most Wanted 2012 Ninja Outlast Overwatch P&A Panda pop Paper.io Pictionary Pikmin portal 2 robot unicorn attack Rook Say Anything Scattergories sequence Shrek the Third Smoking weed in my car South park stick of truth SpongeBob SquarePants spoons Sports and Wii scuba games Star fox Star Wars Battlefront 2 Stratigo Tales of Legendia The Game of Life The Last of Us Tiger Woods Ps2 Tin can alley Tomb Raider Total War Series Trivia Watchdogs We Didn't Playtest This at All Wii Wii sports WWE 2k13 Yu-Gi-Oh Zoo Tycoon 2</p>		Wii Sports
	Favorite	Popular	In-school
You-Tube clips	<p>Shoes By Liam Kelly Sullivan (3) anime amv's (2) asdf videos (2) Crash Course (2) Don't Hug Me I'm Scared (2) Fred (2) ghost in the stalls by Olan Rogers (2) Hide Yo' Kids Hide Yo' Wife (2) how animals eat their food (2) Llamas with Hats (2) Potter Puppet Pals: The Mysterious Ticking Noise (2) Smosh (2) Try Not to Laugh (2) 2001 A Space Odyssey Fail 7 ways to discipline your child A Day with Mom by Brandon Rodgers Alpaca spits on man Asians in the Library David So Baby laughing</p>	<p>PewDiePie (7) How Animals Eat (4) Shoes By Liam Kelly Sullivan (3) The Duck Song (3) Annoying Orange (3) Chocolate Rain (3) Fail Compilations (3) Fred (3) Friday — Rebecca Black (3) Harry Potter Puppet Pals (3) Dude Perfect (2) Funny things (2) Harlem shake (2) Jenna Marbles (2) Smosh (2) Are you silly? asdf movies Badger Badger Badger Baseball Wisdom- Bunting with Kent Murphy</p>	<p>Bill Nye (7) CNN Student News (4) Ted Talks (4) Anything relating to 9/11 (2) bishop father baron (2) Charlie bit my finger (2) Evolution of Dance (2) Friday (2) Harlem Shake (2) History Clips (2) I'm just a bill (2) KONY (2) Logan Paul (2) Political clips (2) Schoolhouse Rock (2) Science ones (2) Science rap (2) Vines (2) A Pep Talk from Kid President AMERICA THE STORY OF US</p>

<p>Balloonshop Blueberries bodmonzaid youtuber videos Bon qui qui Broadway Carpool Karaoke Carl the Lama cats CNN Student News Conspiracy theories Criken Cyprien - les États Unis Dancing to Heart and Soul Despecito 2 Detective Mittens Don Hetzfeldt, "Rejected" double rainbow guy equals3 Famous Last Words First Lady that I used to know food review funny videos Gangnam Style Girl scout cookie girl Halo Theme Bathroom Hamster Dance History of the entire world I guess Hot Kool-Aid How to build a snow globe" How to Videos https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49c9qOHzxXI https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sjt8ufc6GtY hunting I like turtles I loved the YouTuber Kingsley 'I'm a normal guy' from Sam Hyde Income inequality it's time to have some fun with uncle samsonite Jimmy Fallon John Mulaney What's New Pussycat Julian Smith - Malk Just gonna send it Katy Perry- Wide Awake Keyboard Cat Kid the President kpop vine compilations Let's get some shoes Let's Play Magical Trevor makeup videos Meow Minnesota Gurls Miranda Sings Muffins by Liam Kyle Sullivan Mystery Guitar Man Bohemian Rhapsody with Slide Whistles NBA Highlights nowthisisliving videos Nuggest Biscuit Numa music video</p>	<p>Carl the Lama Cat videos Chris Crocker "Leave Britney Alone" CNN Student News Cover songs coyote Peterson crushing things with pneumatic press David goes to the dentist Dope Zebra Double Rainbow Dr. Jean The guacamole song flash mobs Fortnite related funny cat videos Giant 6ft Water Balloon from The Slow Mo Guys Giraffe eating ice cream girl burning hair off Hamster Dance/startled prairie dog Hot Kool Aid How to solve radical equations I'm a gummy bear It's Everyday Bro Jake Paul Key & Peele Substitute Teacher KodyKo or whatever Kony 2012 Listen Linda Llamas with Hats Logan Paul videos makeup videos, gaming videos meme related Meow Merry Chrysler Nature Walk Never Gonna Give you up NFL bad lip reading Nyan Cat OK Go - Here It Goes Again Rainbow cat Ray William Johnson Rick Astley Shrek is Love Shrek is Life Slithery Snake Sports Star Wars kid Such Dude super-hot fire Super ninja Supersonic freefall Sweet Brown Ain't Nobody Got Time for That Tra la la guy Vevo music videos What Does the Fox Say? When the girl gets hit with a shovel during a fight Where's the Chapstick Would you look at that? Wrecking Ball by Miley Cyrus</p>	<p>anatomy of the human female vulva annoying orange auto tune the news Beat Boxing Flute Best of Shark tank Carl the Lama Carpool Karaoke Cat Videos Chris, is that a weed Clips from great Gatsby CNN Conjunction Junction David Goes to the Dentist Discovery Channel dog videos Dropping Turkeys from a helicopter Earthquake aftermaths Ellen Epic Rap Battles of History funny cat videos futurama clips high school student news Historical Documentaries how animals eat their food I love cats I remember a Pythagoras theorem song being played in pre calc Ice Bucket Challenge immunology animations Income Inequality Instructional video Interviews Isn't It Ironic song Kahoot remix Key & Peele Substitute Teacher khan academy Kid President Look at this car!! math videos Music videos My heart will go on- Recorder narcoleptic dog running next time put the tailgate down One about photosynthesis Potassium explodes in water Red/Green color blindness example with football players rick rolled Saturday Night Live Sci-Show Señor Wooley Shane Dawson Shrek is Love Shrek is Life Some clip where a guy says garbage day Spanish Rap Speeches The Office fire drill The Simpsons- Homer pays taxes the slope song The Worst Choir Ever</p>
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	<p>OCD by Neil Hilborn Old Greg orangina cat commercial parkour fails PewDiePie Political Ones popular Song covers Puppies Getting Forever Homes Raining verses Sprinkling Rick Astley Salad Fingers Scaring people with train horns Sneezing panda Star Wars Kid Stupid Mario Brothers Sub Nautica part 1 F*CK THE OCEAN!! by Markiplier Super Deluxe's "Trump Has No Chill at the 9th GOP Debate" Sweet Brown Ain't Nobody Got Time for That Take It to the next level Team Four Stars DBZ Abridged that's NOT A Cookie from uberhaxornova The crazy nastyass honey badger The Duck Song The laser collection" The Numa Numa Song The one with dancing hamsters or something singing "Gummy Bear" The surfer guy on the news The surprised kitty Tra la la guy Ultimate Dog Tease Veritasium clips Vitas- Opera 2 What Does the Fox Say? WHAT IS THIS?" from the Game Grumps World's Fastest hotdog eater Yogscast content</p>	<p>Yodel Boy</p>	<p>There was one of a man pushing through an elevator door only to fall down the shaft? They Were Not. Those national geographic voiceovers tiptoe through the tulips-tiny Tim Tv show snippets various Vlog Bros What Does the Fox Say?</p>
	Beneficial items	Additional categories	Any additional items
	<p>Friends (6) Kardashians (5) Mean Girls References (5) The Office (5) Disney Movies/ Princesses (4) That's What She Said (4) Internet Memes and References. (3) Social Media Preferences (3) SpongeBob (3) Star Wars (3) David Bowie (2) Elon Musk (2) Fortnite/dances (2) Lord of the Rings (2) Marvel (2) Movies or TV shows that are popular for their generation (2) music styles and what artists are popular (2)</p>	<p>Food (5) Music (4) Sports (4) Artists Instead of Songs (3) Celebrities (3) Poets Instead of Poems, (3) Youtubers (3) Bands of the Time (2) Childhood cartoons (2) comedians/humor, (2) holiday celebrations (2) politics, (2) trends of middle school (i.e. hairstyles, clothing, trinkets (silly Bandz), (2) music groups, love triangles) (2) age groups can be excluded because of age gap Blogs/Vlogs, fashion</p>	<p>Dances (2) Marvel Cinematic universe on pop culture and film as a whole. (2) Reality TV (2) silly Bandz and the likes (2) slang, phrases, euphemisms of the time (2) youtubers (2) A category asking, "Is this still applicable in today's society?" Otherwise, what's the point of going back? animated Disney movies artists/bands, call of duty Celebrities that go hand in hand with Tv, Movies, and Music (Kanye West, Gordon Ramsey, Bill Nye,)</p>

<p>Netflix and chill (2) our country/the western world in general is a joke (2) superhero movies (2) Yeet (2) Abbreviations AMERICA, THE STORY OF US Be Kind and Rewind" Before bringing your movies back to the video store. Bill Nye, he's an icon of science and people will repeat "bill" a lot Britney Spears Buffy the Vampire Slayer, because it's the best TV show ever. California isn't what it's made out to be. Cops, shows police brutality crazy girlfriend memes” Current Pop Culture Dabbing or flossing Diversity Don't drink the Kool aid Ellen, Everybody loves a rapper by the named logic Evolution of music Fake news, Family Guy. People talk about that show a lot and even still to this day. fashion trends/brands Fidget Spinner Hannah Montana and Miley Cyrus are the same person. Harry Potter, Highly offensive Internet jokes Hunger Games. Iconic music legends. i.e.: Elvis, Michael Jackson, Garth Brooks, etc. If they get twitter, they'll have everything they need. John Green Crash Course. If you don't really understand a class topic you can just look it up and it will help with more verification Just to not be a poser! Justin Bieber Lady Gaga. She has toured internationally. 'Merica movies from the 1980's like back to the Future Neopets Nirvana. Brought a different feel and connection to music and musicians. Nobody puts Baby in a corner. People should always know how to show authority over others. old cartoons, Our obsessive love of horror People say RIP a lot for situations that don't go in people's way</p>	<p>current, especially with how fast trends are changing, products are being made, etc. Dances, and Diversity favorite myspace pages Memorable events in the News Most people don't use the n-word derogatorily philosophers too Plays (Shakespeare) Political Correctness Culture Present day information would have been much easier to give. I expect most of your survey population is young, but I am not. Presidential scandals real life reality tv Short films Social Activities Songs Superbowl Commercials The difference between alternative, grunge and pop rock! video games Websites What pop culture is world events. Iraq war, school shootings, Ryan white & AIDS, the introduction of technology YouTube Clips</p>	<p>Classic pop culture things also play a role/are relevant in modern pop culture. conspiracy theories filmmakers, flappy bird Food/Drinks - Orbitz, SURGE, wax candy bottles, etc. guitar hero Harry Potter Hollister How the individual gets information about current events. Ex: TV, social media, radio, etc. Hunger Games I also believe that the "Meme" category, although important, should most likely go away. Yes, memes are popular, but with the way they are going now, more pop culture references are needed in order to understand them. i shidded and farded Instagram Jackass the Show late night like what you like, bring your interests and someone will be interested Magazines Markiplier movie companies (i.e. Disney, Fox, etc.) Movie references Music/Arts myspace was once a thing ha-ha Office quotes poets/writers, Sexuality plays a role but not in a good way always SpongeBob, Star Wars movies. Or don't it's not that big a deal Taio Cruz, Taylor swift, the Ellen Show, The Office and Duck Dynasty were also talked about often. There should be a whole page dedicated to favorite quotes from Wayne's World. to kill a mocking bird, TV series</p>
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<p>Poems were never important growing up PRINCE WAS THE BEST Queer language Quentin Tarantino Ready Player One References to American TV and Movies, especially from Netflix. Rickrolling Scrunchies Shania Twain Swag Taylor Swift Teen Titans (older version from Cartoon Network) Text abbreviations in normal conversation That 70's Show that Americans, by and large, consider soccer as a joke. That pop culture doesn't define us, and it's makes a mockery of us... The Beatles the blue and black/white and gold dress controversy the loss meme has made a really strong comeback The lottery short story. They should know that if someone asks if you smoke, it's probably about weed not cigarettes. And understand that lit means cool or fun TI-84 calculator games/tricks - this was pre-smart phone, and this is how students would play around/goof off in math classes... Trump before the presidency Twitter Feeds Ugandan knuckles Watch any movie someone can't believe you haven't seen yet to familiarize yourself with popular references. Begin with Mean Girls. Watch the entirety of the animated series King of the Hill. We joke about being depressed, not wanting to live, etc. but it's just dark humor — not what we actually believe well, not all Americans like the same thing. Some people love Star Wars, and some don't. Some people love Rap music, and some don't. My personal advice would be to stay relevant with the music. With variety of genres it can be easy to find songs or artist that other people enjoy as well. What "tea" means What a gif is and their meanings When Britney shaved her head Whose Line is it Anyway</p>		
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