

Hipster

My older sister and I have always had a cordial relationship despite our sharply contradicting lifestyles. While I am the typical kid just trying to blend in, she is the paragon of a hipster. Hipsters are those who, by striving to find their own styles, reject the ideas of mainstream consumers. They follow unconventional patterns and fashions in order to express who they are. You can typically find one shopping at a thrift shop, walking around the city in a motley outfit, or maybe even at the hair salon getting a strange haircut by a gifted stylist.

It is fair to say my sister was “hipsterized” when she was sixteen or seventeen. She went from cloning her outfits from Disney channel to wearing skinny jeans. She also began to listen to alternative music by bands most people had never heard of before. One day she came home from the salon with short, sweeping bangs that made my chin drop. At first, I felt sheepish being around her, but I quickly began to respect her style. I was enthralled by her carefree ways. Her changes were not exclusively physical. Her personality, which had seemed confined before, began to blossom. By ignoring the restraining standards set by society, she was no longer afraid to be herself.

Hipsters are unlike any other click or group. The whole purpose of being a hipster is so one can express him/her self in any way desirable. Hipster’s actions are typically contradictory to stereotypical society. When you think of a Goth or a hippie, you can simply point them out and they can identify with each other simply by their appearance. However, being a hipster is

all about expressing your individuality. There are countless types of self-expression, so you cannot just characterize a hipster based on any certain trait. Hipsters are found across all social groups. A jock could be a hipster, as could a geek. Unlike clicks, people do not become hipsters to find others like themselves, but rather to explore who they are. This is why many are nonplussed about the way hipsters are perceived.

The Hipster's separation from mainstream clothes has imbued her with a vague fashion style, leading many people to throw them all into a single category together. In reality, you will never see hipsters roaming the streets with other hipsters because hipsters do not necessarily have the same views on everything. Rejecting social norms, hipsters are defined by social expression. They do what makes them happy, when they want. A hipster is not worried about how he/she is perceived, but more focused on how they feel about their self-image and who they are. By focusing on themselves individually, hipsters do not tend to congregate together.

While hipsters are easy to identify by their unique clothing and taste in music, the more generalized trait of a hipster is a capacity for independent thought. A hipster is not likely to identify with any certain political party, and most likely to trust his or her own opinions on many matters. My sister, who is neither a democrat nor republican, wishes to maximize personal liberty on both economic and social matters. She views many concepts with this same approach. Knowing that every person and every situation is different, my sister is the last to judge.

With a large capacity for out-of-the-box thinking, hipsters put themselves in a favorable situation to be quite successful in life. They compose new ideas and ways of thinking that are vital for productive businesses these days. Many businesses put a high premium on new ideas

that can separate their product from the rest, or find modern ways to advertise what their product effectively. These careers are perfect for hipsters who pride themselves on independent thinking.