

WE EMOJIS

STUDENTS AT WEST DEL SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS ON THE TREND

By Ella Oakleaf

With technology becoming more powerful than ever, teens are stepping up their communication abilities through the digital world in a surprisingly simple way—emojis. For many, emojis have become a typical part of their daily lives, whether it be through Twitter, Instagram, or texting.

Emojis can be used for making emotions/intentions

clear, storytelling, or just as a small piece of clipart alongside a tweet or caption.

Freshman Adaja Collins said she uses emojis every day in almost every text.

“They’re really helpful,” said Collins. She explains that when using just words to text, it is hard to tell if the speaker is being sarcastic or not.

In agreement, senior Colin Weber says he finds emojis useful because they allow

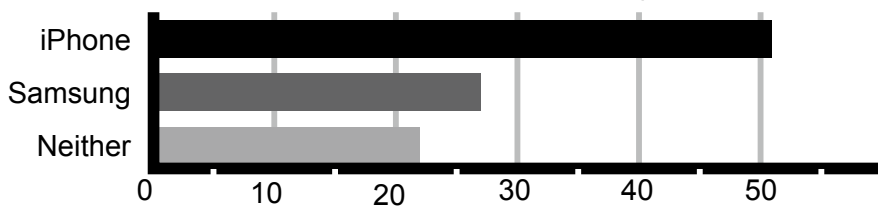
him to express more. “You look at emojis like a facial expression,” says Weber. “Its job is to convey emotion, especially in text where something can be taken at face value or shrouded in misunderstanding.”

Junior Kinsey Gudenkauf agrees that emojis can be useful, adding that her favorite emoji is the smiley face with sunglasses because it “represents cool.” Most of the

time, however, she prefers not to use emojis at all. “I like it better when people don’t use emojis, actually,” says Gudenkauf. “I just think it’s easier.”

Sophomore Tristan Volker, however, enjoys emojis for more than just texting. “They add emotion and meaning to those dull Instagram captions!” Volker said.

What Do You Use Emojis On?



What Emoji Are You?

- Keisha Robison (11): **Laughing Crying Face.** “I’m funny and pretty sarcastic and like to make jokes!”
- Tristan Dittrick (9): **Smirk Face.** “I’m smirkin’ all the time, especially when I’m in trouble.”
- Alyssa Sellner (11): **Upside Down Smiley Face.** “It has more than one meaning... And my life is a horrible mess.”
- Gage Gassmann (12): **“Okay” Hand Gesture.** “I’m really sarcastic, and I feel like that’s a sarcastic hand gesture.”
- Shayne Fessler (11): **Lizard.** “I have a flip phone-but I would be a lizard.”

(100 students were surveyed)

What Emoji Do You Wish Existed That Doesn’t?

- A Heart Face with a Frown. “So you can say, ‘You love me... But you don’t?’” -Hope Straley (9)
- “Mac’n Cheese!” -Sabrina Welcher (9)
- “Hands making it rain money.” -Devon White (12)

Where Do You Use Emojis Most?

