

TEXT 1**Here's What's Cool Now – Teens Have Spoken!**

By Annalyn Kurtz



- 1 In the latest "Taking Stock With Teens" report, analysts at investment firm Piper Jaffray surveyed 5,500 teens with an average age of 16. They found two key trends.
- 2 Firstly, food is now the single largest category for teenagers' wallets, accounting for 24% of their spending, followed by clothing, which accounts for 19%. Ten years ago, the exact opposite was the case, with teens spending the larger share on clothes. The clear winners here are Starbucks, which has remained teens' top restaurant choice for at the least the last seven years.
- 3 Why Starbucks? And how does Starbucks, an American franchise, fit into the South African landscape?
- 4 The first Starbucks opened in 1971. It was started by an English teacher, a history teacher and a writer. It makes sense then that the venture was named after a literary character in the well-known classic, *Moby Dick*. The name evoked the romance of the high seas and the seafaring tradition of the early coffee traders. This romantic pull of the oceans also inspired the Starbucks logo – because coffee itself was seen to be as alluring and romantic as any mermaid could ever be!
- 5 The early Starbucks developers had a vision to bring the Italian coffeehouse experience to the United States. In Italy, the traditional coffee bar is a place for conversation and a sense of community. A third place between work and home. And so, from the beginning, Starbucks set out to be a different kind of company. One that not only celebrated coffee and the rich tradition, but one that also brought a feeling of connection.
- 6 Starbucks opened its doors for the first time in Southern Africa in April 2016; however, the African "connection" already existed because Starbucks **ethically sources** coffee beans from no fewer than nine African countries (Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Burundi, Zambia, Cameroon, and the DRC).
- 7 If we remember that South Africa is known for its friendly welcome and sunny skies, then the Starbucks philosophy fits right in. It may seem too simple, but indeed, just one hand reaching over the counter to present a cup to another outstretched hand, *is* a connection ... As one employee puts it: "Every day, we go to work hoping to do two things: share great coffee with our friends and help make the world a little better. It was true when the first Starbucks opened in 1971, and it's just as true today."
- 8 But not every culture on the planet is the same ... When a Starbucks affiliate opened a 200-square-foot coffee stand inside the walls of China's Forbidden City in 2000, the proud nation of 1,3 billion reacted as if someone had spilled a Venti Caramel Macchiato in its collective lap. A nationwide survey found that 70% of Chinese thought that a coffee shop had no business in the 600-year-old UNESCO World Heritage Site. A news anchor on China's state-run television even led an online protest to the caffeinated intruder, saying that Starbucks "undermined the Forbidden City's solemnity and trampled over Chinese culture."

- 9 Turns out that Starbucks only opened the mini-outpost at the invitation of Forbidden City Museum officials who were "testing the waters" for more commercial interests in the 178-acre site. The test concluded that the waters were teeming with coffee-hating Chinese sharks. In 2007, the Forbidden City Starbucks (OK, that does sound a little funny) closed its tiny bamboo doors.

[Adapted from: <www.fortune.com>, <www.starbucks.co.za> and <www.mentalfloss.com>]

TEXT 2

The **history of tea in China** is long and complex. The Chinese have enjoyed tea for millennia. Tea was seen as a cure for a variety of ailments; the nobility considered the consumption of good tea as a mark of their status, and the common people simply enjoyed its flavour. It remains the most popular beverage in China.

[Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_tea_in_China>]

TEXT 3

Fun Trivia about Coffee

- (a) The name "cappuccino" comes from the similarity of the drink to the colour of Capuchin monks' clothing.
- (b) The word "espresso" literally means when something is forced out.
- (c) Coffee was one of the first ever freeze-dried foods.
- (d) Most coffees are a blend of Arabica and Robusta beans.
- (e) Java and Mocha blends are named after their port of origin.
- (f) 40% of the world's coffee is produced by Columbia and Brazil.
- (g) Sixteenth-century Muslim leaders banned coffee because of its unusual stimulating effects.



[Source: Readers' Digest: <www.rd.com>]

TEXT 4**Laughter is the Best Medicine**

By Lawrence Robinson et al, October 2017

Sure, it's fun to share a good laugh. Did you know that laughter can actually improve your mental and physical health, and your relationships?

You can learn to laugh at any stage of life. Smiling is the beginning of laughter and like laughter, it's contagious. Practise smiling. Instead of looking down at your phone, look up and smile at people you pass in the street, the person serving you a morning coffee, or people in the traffic. Notice the effect this has on others, and on YOU.

So think about these blessings often. We can all choose what to focus on: the glass half full or half empty... And then, deliberately see life's problems in a broader perspective; that way we see that the sun always rises after any problems encountered. We cannot choose what happens to us but we can choose our response.

People are usually very happy to share something funny because it gives them an opportunity to laugh again and feed off the humour you find in it. When you hear laughter, seek it out and ask, "What's funny?" You can even initiate a focus on the lighter side of life by asking people, "What's the funniest thing that happened to you today? This week? In your life?"

If all else fails, there are always books, films and shows that stimulate laughter. And don't forget to play with your pet; there are few activities more likely to put a smile on your face and in your heart.

[Adapted from <www.helpguide.org>]

TEXT 5**SONNET 116**

William Shakespeare

- 1 Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove:
- 5 O no! it is an ever-fixed mark
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
- 10 Within his bending sickle's compass come:
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
- 14 I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

TEXT 6**Refugee Mother and Child**

Chinua Achebe

- 1 No Madonna and Child could touch
that picture of a mother's tenderness
for a son she would soon have to forget.
- 5 The air was heavy with odours
of diarrhoea of unwashed children
with washed-out ribs and dried-up
bottoms struggling in laboured
steps behind blown empty bellies. Most
10 mothers there had long ceased
to care but not this one; she held
a ghost smile between her teeth
and in her eyes the ghost of a mother's
pride as she combed the rust-coloured
hair left on his skull and then –
- 15 singing in her eyes – began carefully
to part it ... In another life this
would have been a little daily
act of no consequence before his
breakfast and school; now she
- 20 did it like putting flowers
on a tiny grave.

TEXT 7**INTRODUCTION TO POETRY**

by Billy Collins

- 1 I ask them to take a poem
and hold it up to the light
like a colour slide
- 2 or press an ear against its hive.
- 3 I say drop a mouse into a poem
and watch him probe his way out,
- 4 or walk inside the poem's room
and feel the walls for a light switch.
- 5 I want them to waterski
across the surface of a poem
waving at the author's name on the shore.
- 6 But all they want to do
is tie the poem to a chair with rope
and torture a confession out of it.
- 7 They begin beating it with a hose
to find out what it really means.

TEXT 8



[Source: <www.adsoftheworld.com>]

TEXT 9



[Source: <www.comicsalliance.com>]

TEXT 10

Please note: The text contains deliberate errors.

Toffee, Clea, or Me? Submitted by: Ruth Scheidler, Michigan

1 Years ago, as a young new teacher, I helped (7.1 by / at) parents' evening by
 2 filling and pouring coffee and tea from two large silver (fancy ones – that's
 3 probably why I got into trouble) tea pots.

4 Unfortunately, it was a boring task, which is always my excuse to think about
 5 something else, and I totally lost track of which pot was which. I topped both pots
 6 up before realising that I had created two pots, both with a mix of coffee AND tea.

7 Since school coffee are notoriously bad, it didn't seem that big a deal, so I asked
 8 people if they wanted "Toffee" or "Clea" just because it was fun to watch the look
 9 on their faces (remember I was bored).

10 But the joke was on me. They obediently got their cups filled, walked off drinking
 11 and eating the equally bad cookies, and never **knew** the difference. Maybe it
 12 improved the sorry lot!

[Source: <www.coffee-usa.com>]