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Generation z's texting habits for expressing emotions in mobile mediated communication study case: Emoji use

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Generation z's texting habits for expressing emotions in mobile mediated
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Declaration

I hereby declare that the substance of this dissertation is the result of my investigation due reference of acknowledgment is made when necessary to the whole of other researchers.

Soraya Rebika

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DEDICATION

this thesis is sincerely devoted to my awesome family my father ,mother ,my sister and brothers

for their endless support morally and financially , their love and encoragement . your prayers

and douaa guided me throughout my educational long journey I am grateful and proud for

having you by my side .i also dedicate this work to my fiancé who has been always there for me

when I needed him thank you for supporting me everytime regardless I was right or wrong you

taught me how care and dedication gives people a chance to glow thank your for supporting me in

my mental breakdowns , thank you for understanding me and helping me be the best version of

my self and most importantly thank you for letting me know how true love looks like .

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Abstract

The new generation is addicted to social media, and this is becoming more prominent. There are numerous emojis and stickers available on social media that can be used to mimic how one is feeling when messaging. Accordingly, the study's goal is to gain a deeper understanding of generation z participants' messaging attitudes and behaviors while using emojis as emotional responses in mobile communicative interaction. Therefore, we hypothesized that Emojis act as emotional displays in representing and understanding meaning behind text messages. We used a quantitative method in this study by distributing a questionnaire to 40 freshmen English students (5 males and 35 females) at Djilali Bounaama University in Khemis Miliana. Therefore, the study findings confirmed the research hypothesis's validity.

Key words: Emojis, Emotional displays, Degital non verbals, Communication Theory, Texting, Generation z

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Résumé

La nouvelle génération est accro aux médias sociaux, et cela devient de plus en plus important. Il existe de nombreux emojis et autocollants disponibles sur les réseaux sociaux qui peuvent être utilisés pour imiter ce que l'on ressent lors de la messagerie. En conséquence, l'objectif de l'étude est de mieux comprendre les attitudes et les comportements de messagerie des participants de la génération z tout en utilisant les emojis comme réponses émotionnelles dans l'interaction communicative mobile. Par conséquent, nous avons émis l'hypothèse que les Emojis agissent comme des affichages émotionnels dans la représentation et la compréhension du sens derrière les messages texte, nous avons également émis l'hypothèse que Nous avons utilisé une méthode quantitative dans cette étude en distribuant un questionnaire à 40 étudiants anglais de première année (5 garçons et 35 filles) à l'Université Djilali Bounaama à Khemis Miliana. Par conséquent, les résultats de l'étude ont confirmé la validité de l'hypothèse de recherche.

Mots clés : emojis, manifestations émotionnelles, non verbaux numériques, théorie de la communication, textos, génération z

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ملخص

الجيل الجديد اصبح مدمنا على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي ، وهذا الأمر أصبح أكثر بروزًا. ومع ذلك هناك العديد من الرموز التعبيرية والملصقات المتوفرة على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي والتي يمكن استخدامها لتقليد شعور المرء عند المراسلة. وفقًا لذلك ، يتمثل هدف هذه الدراسة في اكتساب فهم أعمق لمواقف وسلوكيات رسائل المشاركين من الجيل z أثناء استخدام الرموز التعبيرية كاستجابات عاطفية في التفاعل التواصلي عبر الهاتف المحمول. لذلك ، افترضنا أن الرموز التعبيرية تعمل كعروض عاطفية في تمثيل وفهم المعنى الكامن وراء الرسائل النصية .

استخدمنا الطريقة الكمية في هذه الدراسة من خلال توزيع استبيان على 40 طالبًا إنجليزيًا جديدًا (5 ذكور و 35 إناث) في جامعة الجيلالي بونعامة بخميس مليانة. و بالتالي ، أكدت نتائج الدراسة صحة فرضية هذا البحث

الكلمات المفتاحية: الرموز التعبيرية ، العروض العاطفية ، الألفاظ غير اللفظية ، نظرية الاتصال ، الرسائل النصية ، الجيل z .

List of Abbreviations

CMC: Computer Mediated Communication

MMC: Mobile Mediated Communication

Ftf: face to face communication

Gen Z: Generation Z

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Chapter One: General Introduction

. Studies on mediated communication typically focus on computer mediated communication (CMC), including emails and instant messaging (IM). Instant messaging remains the 'POPULAR' communication channels, but due to the rapid advancements in mobile technology, communication researchers took consideration 'mobile' conversation. The amount of time spent on mobile devices is sufficient evidence to justify further research.

1-1Problem statement

Regarding interpersonal relationships support, text messaging on mobile devices exceeds all other media formats. Although mobile texting is among the most widely used communication platforms in the world, little experimental research have looked at users' capabilities and behaviors regarding such devices (Mahatanankoon & O'Sullivan, 2008), so a need for more comprehensive understanding of the work of communication theory in mobile texting is required. Texting is a widespread tool of communication. Hence it is relevant for research. Much as technological usage of social media and internet access differs among generations, text messaging usage and habits may change as well   A study under the name of adapting nonverbal coding theory to mobile mediated communication: An analysis of Emoji and other digital nonverbals has dealt with the analysis of 'Emoji'; however it was mainly related to the generation of 'Millennial generation'. Our study in it turn is going to deal with the same idea of Emoji analysis; however it will be concerned with the newest generation 'Gen Z'.

1-2 Research aims:

This research attempts to illustrate the existence and the importance of Emoji usage in mobile conservation of 'Gen Z' users. Emoji do not stand alone as independent variables,

rather as a complementary to verbal communication. Also, it demonstrates how communication theory concepts adapt and grow to satisfy the communicative demands of Generation Z via mobile-mediated communication (MMC). Adding to that this study expects the combination of nonverbal coding theory concepts with the less researched angles of mobile texting discussions. Nonverbal coding theory is believed to connect to MMC in a manner that allows for the creation of a basic understanding of texting nonverbal activities. For that reason the following questions are formulated.

1-3 Research question:

a) . Are Emojis a substitute or a compliment to mobile mediated communication?

b) Does this usage of Emoji affects the communication? If that's the case how?

c) Do emojis convey the communicators' true intended meaning?

1-4 Research objectives

The focus of this study will be on Emoji as a messaging activity in mobile mediated communication specifically on its role in texting and its effect on the communication and the communicators as well. The Oxford English Dictionary named this Emoji 😂 "Face with Tears of Joy" as the word of the year in 2015, a pictograph was chosen from among all the other words of that year; this illustrates the impact of digital technology on communication. Casper Grathwohl, the head of Oxford Dictionaries stated «*When you look back on the year in language, one of the most remarkable aspects was that* 😂,", and he completed that: *The most dominant component of written communication wasn't a word at all, but rather Emoji culture... The fact that English alone is unable to satisfy the demands of digital communication in the twenty-first century are a tremendous change."*

(Read, 2016). For MMC devices, this "transition" involves the development of a

theoretical framework and analytical technique

1-5 Hypotheses

Reflecting the research questions we hypothesize the following:

1- Emoji are used in texting as complementary to verbal communication.

2- Emoji act as emotional displays in representing and understanding meaning behind text messages........

1-6 Rational

...... Because text messaging is a convenient, simple, and low-cost communication technique, it has grown in popularity among young adults from adolescence to university (Lenhart, 2010), therefore it is one of the most extensively ways of communication in today's world due to its instantaneous method. Individuals have become reliant on text messaging to maintain daily interactions with friends, family, and other acquaintances, as well as to develop their own culture. Each generation has its own collection of beliefs, behaviors, social and societal customs, and characteristics that distinguish it from previous generations (Novak, 2012). Several studies have found that younger people are more likely to communicate by text messages. Digital natives have been portrayed as younger individuals (Prensky, 2001; Becker, 2009; Chen & Yan, 2016; ievi et al., 2016; Kitzing et al., 2009; Sherman et al .Generation Z was chosen as the sample for the current study for this reason.

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Walther (2006) observes that communication scholars frequently believe communicators cannot perform the same nonverbal activities in real situations, such as FtF conversations. If that's true, genuine, and effective conversation through mediated communication would be unachievable. The presumed absence of typical FtF indications unavailable to MMC users, such as body language, intonation, or pauses, were proven to be incorrect according to previous researches .MMC operators develop sophisticated and creative digital nonverbal instruments to achieve a meaningful communication one of them is Emoji, which is a computerized equivalent for facial expressions 😞 gestures 🤏 eye behavior 😌 and body language 🚶‍♀️ .

With the rise in popularity of digital non-verbals, such as Emoji, in mobile mediated communication it is accurate to investigate the impact of texting practices on communication theory

The current study is mainly separated into four important chapters the previous chapter which covers the basic initial background information , the research focus , the importance of a research emphasis and specific research aims , hypothesis and study expectations , chapter that follows reviews fundamental nonverbal communication theory as well as studies documenting major breakthroughs in mediated interactions. After that a methodology chapter will be dedicated to the instruments used to gather the essential data for this study The last chapter analyses the collected data before moving on to the arguments and conclusions we made after reviewing the findings

Chapter two: Review of literature

The first part of this chapter will contain a concise review about online mediated communication as well as a broad overview of non verbal code and how the non verbal indicators are presented in the online medium. Following that a closer examination of emoji creation will be conducted, it will also address the theoretical framework as well as the related studies. This chapter is primarily focused on providing the necessary knowledge about literature concerning mediated communication, Emoji, and relevant prior research in order to form a basis to the current study.

2-1Non verbal code:

It has long been debated whether nonverbal cues serve interpersonal or intrapersonal objectives, and if they "are truly an independent symbolic system or merely a by-product of producing speech" (Burgoon, Buller, and Woodall, 1996, p.151) .Theorists have differing perspectives on the subject. Some of them argue that nonverbal cues have intrapersonal purposes and are thus not meant to transmit meaning, but rather are results of the speech production process, and hence do not constitute meaningful communication (Burgoon et al., 1996, p.152) On the other hand, some argue that nonverbal clues are intentionally employed to convey meaning and are in fact a piece of the total message (Burgoon, et al., 1996, p. 152). The perspectives of this study are similar to those of the latter. With the dominant of non verbal cues in face-to- face encounters ; reportedly ,Some studies indicate that nonverbal cues provide 90 percent of our meaning, while more recent and credible research suggest that it is closer to 65 percent (Guerrero & Floyd, 2006). Nonverbal coding elements may also occur in digital communication systems (Alban, 2015).

In order to accomplish the aims of this study A thorough understanding of the non verbal code is presented including its definition along with its functional and behavioral meanings .According to Littlejohn and Foss (2011) "nonverbal codes are clusters of behaviors that are used to convey meaning" (p. 126).Also, some researchers confirm that "non-verbal communication refers to all aspects of message exchange without the use of words … it includes all expressive signs , signals , and cue (audio , visual)" , (Zoric, G., Smid, K., & Pandzic, I. S. 2007; Ranjbaran, 2014 , p .61)

2-2Classification of non verbal codes :

Scholars have categorized non verbal cues into different categories. Knapp and Hall divided non verbal communication into four categories : Appearance , proxemics , body motion (which include gesture , postures , touching ; facial expression ; eye behavior) and paralanguage (Knapp , M .L., & Hall, J.A. 1992) Whereas Harrison (1974) divides nonverbal communication into four categories as well they include : performance codes (any non verbal body action) ; spatiotemporal codes (non verbal interaction based on space , time and distance) , art factual codes (communicating through objects and materials) , and mediatory codes (when media involves in the interaction) Furthermore , the categorization proposed by (Zoric , Smid, et al) appears to be factual and one of the most thorough of nonverbal communication classifications.. They classified non verbal communication into ten categories: Chronomics (Timing of verbalization and pauses) ; Haptics (individual contact and touch) ; Kinesics (all types of body movement including facial expression , eye movement , gestures and posture) ; Oculesics (eye contact) ; Oflatics (the influence of smell) ; Physical appearance ; Proxemics (consideration of personal space) ;Silence (no

Communication); Symbolism (meaning associated with symbols); Vocalic (tone of voice, pitch, volume and rate of speech).

Riggio (1992) proposed another code framework classification, dividing communication into three categories in which he refers to as expressivity (encoding) , sensitivity (decoding) and control (ability to control non verbal behavior) . Within the categories mentioned above it exists another classification indentified by (Ekman & Friesen, 1969) as emblems; illustrators affect display; regulators; adaptors.

An emblem, according to Ekman and Friesen (1969), might replicate, substitute, or contradict some of the accompanying verbal actions. They can be seen in any part of the body, although they are most commonly seen in the face and hands. Thus, emblems can be identified as gestures that symbolize verbal equivalents Furthermore, Ekman and Friesen (1969) observe that the verbal description or translation of an emblem "is well known by all members of group, class, or culture" (p. 63). That notion will help in spotting symbolic items in mobile mediated communication (MMC). Similarly to emblems, illustrators have the same functions (Ekman & Friesen, 1969). However; illustrators do not have an independent meaning apart from words but they are Movements that are directly related to speech and reflect what is being expressed orally (Burgoon, et al. 1996) such as pictographs illustrators which make a drawing of their signifier (Ekman & Friesen, 1969).

Another category suggested by Ekman and Friesen (1969) is affect display in which facially exhibited emotions or facial expressions, are included. Affect displays, according to Littlejohn and Foss (2011), are inherent and fundamentally programmed. This indicates that deciding

whether or not to express an emotion, as well as which emotion to express, is based on personal experience. Ekman and Friesen (1969) suggested seven universal emotion that cross

cultures (happiness , anger , surprise , fear , sadness , disgust and interest) frequently facial expressions convey more just one meaning so that meaning may be ambiguous and not easy to predict so " the affect blend " ; The researchers also suggest that the face often expresses many emotions at any given moment, instead of a single emotional state, since the map of facial characteristics is complicated to allow the simultaneous display of mixes of two or more emotions (Ekman and Friesen , 1969) . Ultimately, this concept helps in understanding the difficulties of the affect display in expressing multiple emotions and how the latter are transmitted to non verbal cues in MMC.

2-3 Communication via media

Research around the presence of nonverbal cues on online synchronous setting such as (instant chatting) has been limited, thus attention will be shifted to research surrounding it. Theories that either deny or acknowledge the existence of non verbal cues in online communication setting will be covered.

2-4Theoretical foundations of communication via media

Primary beliefs regarding computer mediated communication (CMC) emphasize the overwhelmingly negative implications of communication without nonverbal signals, such as depersonalization Short, Williams and Christie (1976). By that suggesting that the concept of online communications and the notion of nonverbal communication are conflicting. One of the theories that support this idea is" the social presence theory".

2-4-1"The social presence theory"

It is defined as the extent to which one feels the presence of a person with whom one is interacting (Burke & Chidambaram, 1999).Similarly; Lowry, Roberts, Romano, Cheney and

Hightower (2006) defines it as the degree to which a communication medium allows group members to perceive (sense) the actual presence of the communication participants and the subsequent enjoyment of an interpersonal relationship, despite the fact that they are in separate locations, occur at separate periods of time, and only interact via digital channels . According to Short, Williams and Christie (1976) the range to which media may impart a social presence varies. The fundamental idea is that a human social system is too complicated to be captured by a computer system. Particularly in a social situation, uncertainty can only be understood appropriately by people. (Daft & Lengel, 1986, p. 569). In order to complete the task successfully, social presence theory anticipates a match between the medium's ability to express social presence and the task (Pazos, Chung, & Micari, 2013; Short et al., 1976,) because, this presence provides social cues that are required for the development of interpersonal connections. (http://hj.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1229339/FULLTEXT01.pdf) .However; the grow of synchronous digital communication (instant messaging; text messaging) as well as the availability of physical immediacy, have rendered past arguments of depersonalization in mediated communications obsolete. On same direction, the" social context theory "is another theory that claims the digital communication is incapable of containing non verbal cues.

2-4-2The social context theory:

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According to Sproull and Kiesler (1986), "social context cues serve as indicators of appropriate behavior" they include situational, geographical, and organizational concerns. Such as collecting contact information (who we should communicate with) and content information (what we should share). Sproull and Kiesler (1986) discovered in one of their research on the use of email in organizational contact that the limited number of social cues

has a large impact on the character of human behavior in mediated contexts. Correspondingly , Walther (2006) claims "nonverbal cues in FtF settings establish the social context of interaction and with the awareness of social context, participants infer and perform normative behavior...this position, like(Social Presence Theory), suggests that the absence of nonverbal cues is the casual factor distinguishing FtF and online interaction (p. 463) According to theorists, a lack of social presence and context clues in mediated communication results in cold or task-related communication (Walther, 2006). The assumption that while engaged in mediated communication, social context is lost led to the idea that mediated communication is unable to create warmth and friendliness in speech.

While some theories argue that nonverbal cues are not interchangeable and online interactions once seen to be a poor alternative for face-to-face encounters others emphasize the applicability of digital communication and modern scholars are increasingly overcoming the previous assumptions and become more interested in mediated communication. One of the theories that advocates a more positive interpretation of the constraints of online interaction is the" social information processing theory "(SIP) (Walther, 1992; Walther & Parks, 2002).

2-4-3"Social processing theory"

According to this theory Users look for alternate methods to avoid impersonal ambiguity, form impressions, and create attachment, and they carry out these activities utilizing the medium's various cues. SIP also claims that the clear advantage of face-to-face ('FtF) communication is due to the fact that it is generally faster than CMC interaction. However, when these time limits are eliminated and users are given enough time to exchange messages, they are capable of attaining levels of relationship growth and impression comparable to those

Ataind to regular face-to-face conversation (Walther, Anderson, & Park, 1994). SIP's core concept is that CMC is as competent as FtF communication based on the transferability of verbal and nonverbal cues (Walther, 2006, p. 466). Walther (1996) and Herring (1999) show how CMC users exploit the unique characteristics of specific CMC medium to accomplish engagement goals that go beyond the social levels often attained in face-to-face interactions. These findings may be noteworthy in view of the negative description of CMC constraints in relation to face-to-face interaction, but they are not significant in light of the enormous popularity and accessibility of particular CMC forms. As a result, it is evident that face-to-face communication is neither a model nor an optimum, nor should it be considered an extreme norm. Previous study has called into question the face-to-face norm, claiming that interpersonal interactions and cultural effects impact media choice (Fulk, Schmitz, & Steinfield, 1990), and online interactions have been shown to be healthy as a supplement to face-to-face relationships (Peris et al., 2002). SIP theory believes that all information may be conveyed in a multitude of ways, but admits that textual cues alone may be less efficient than a concurrent multimodal interaction (i.e. an interaction of kinesics, vocalic, and verbal codes) (Walther, 2006).Another theory demonstrating how users of mediated communication

"exploit" and work around the lack of nonverbal cues is the "Hyper-personal Interaction theory" which is an extension to the SIP theory.

2-4-4Hype-personal theory

This theory is an expansion to the previous one (SIP). It illustrates how, as compared to face-to-face communication, a personal experience in one of the CMC settings may produce a sensation of proximity. The lack of nonverbal cues in CMC allows senders to engage in selective self-reflections while composing a message, which is not feasible in FtF contact,

According to this view (Walther, 2006) .It also suggests that CMC, is a location where aural, visual, and social cues are all diminished. One key result of reducing CMC cues is that people become less concerned in how others see them and hence feel less self-conscious about expressing themselves (Joinsen, 2011) ;Furthermore, "CMC users can create more intentional messages and avoid unintentional cues. The ability to edit text messages enhances this effect...The CMC process frees users from needing to attend to one's own nonverbal behavior," (Walther, 2006, p. 465).

Moreover, there is ongoing research examining particular digital communication channels both asynchronous (emails) synchronous (instant messaging). Respectively , some researchers believe that the asynchronous features of text-based CMC allow for greater thinking, reflection, and accurate information processing, (Hara, Bonk, and Angeli , 2000.) this method relates the digital communication interaction that does not provide an instant answer like (emails)   .In the other hand , there is a simultaneous interaction which is known as synchronous it occurs in instant messaging (chats) it is more immediate and considered to

be an important feature in online group trust, emotional relationships, and efficacy (Walther & Bunz, 2005) in that perspective , Researchers investigated how users transmit emotion and emphasis in text-based spaces using instant messaging innovation they discovered some non verbal aspect of instant messaging which include emoticons (☹ ; ☺) (Sherman, Michikyan, and Greenfield , 2013) . Related to the beliefs of scholars instant messages are proved to be important as they allow for the transfer of concurrent interaction concepts and devices from IM to the correspondingly synchronous medium of mobile mediated communication.

2-5 Mobile mediated communication (MMC) and Generation Z

  Despite the fact that mobile phones were intended for vocal communication, now it contain more features that in fact enable new type of social interaction such as texting capabilities(Mahatanankoon & O'Sullivan, 2008). Due to the interactional method in which users like to utilize texting, as well as the absence of multimodality, texting may be quite comparable to online chat and instant messaging.(tag , 2012) . Because IM users lack access to paralinguistic or vocalic cues, the characteristics given by mediated communication technologies are accounted for and creatively employed.

  Some researchers argue that when it comes to the creation and interpretation of nonverbal signals, communicators follow rules that are shown in their capacity to detect colloquial statements or unusual signal pairing (Burgoon, et al., 1996) .The researchers also note that the existence of norms and rules shows that there are standards governing nonverbal activities. The authors declare that each culture can simply describe which acts are acceptable or unacceptable in certain settings (Burgoon, et al., 1996). The hypothesis that culture influences nonverbal behaviors in face-to-face communication may be extended to nonverbal behaviors in MMC as well. Text messaging, today's main form of mediated communication, retains the

communicative capabilities of email and instant messaging. This type of communication cannot be understood without considering the culture in which it occurs. To determine behavioral standards, it is necessary to first establish the context in which the activity is performed (Burgoon et al, 1960, p. 45) for that reason Generation Z features, as well as their link and engagement with MMC, will be discussed for the present study concerns

Generation Z also known as the post- millennial it concerns people who have been born on 1996 or later. They are very familiar with technology and spend a substantial amount of their

time socializing on social media like face book and other social media systems; it is uncommon to find a member of this group without a mobile device Lai and Hong (2014). As individuals of this generation reach the ages of four and five, they become less interested in traditional toys and more interested in technology such as cell phones, iPads, and video games (Novak, 2012).

Today's university students have never known a world without computers and Smartphone; thus communicating digitally comes natural to them which has important impacts for communication. Generation Z users are likely to use mediated communication as their primary, and favored method for interpersonal interactions tat highlights the possibility of emojis function as digital non verbal cues in mobile mediated communication for that purpose a closer examination of emoji creation would be reviewed as well as the previous studies on that topic

2-6 Background:

2-6-1 Emoticons:

The use of instant messaging eliminates the use of visual cues that are found in face to face interaction so "CMC users often incorporate emoticons as visual cues to augment the meaning of textual electronic messages" (Rezabek & Cochenour, 1998, p. 201-202). Emoticons are the essence of emojis so it is essential to understand the background of these tools as well as their functions.

Emoticons are defined as "punctuation marks, letters, and numbers used to create pictorial icons that generally display an emotion or sentiment" https://www.britannica.com/story/whats-the-difference-between-emoji-and-emoticons). In

The New York Times translation of an 1862 Abraham Lincoln speech, a historical newspaper specialist discovered what seems to be a sideways winking smiley face; it is thought to be one of the first uses of emoticons in history. Although it's unclear whether it's a typo or a purposely intended emoticon

"… there is no precedent for your being here yourselves, (applause and laughter ;) and I offer, in justification of myself and you, that I have found nothing in the Constitution against." *Abraham Lincoln* (https://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/01/19/hfo-emoticon/)

Others believe that the emoticon was first used by Scott E. Fahlman in 1982 at Carnegie Mellon University in a proposal regarding how people could use a smiley or frowny emoticons to make sure that a message would be read as intended by the sender (Churches, Nicholls, Thiessen, Kohler, & Keage, 2014,p. 197; Krohn, 2004, p. 321).Furthermore, the smiley emoticon :-) was intended to make the reader interpret the sentence preceding it as humorous while the frowning emoticon :-(was meant to alert the reader that the sentence

preceding it was meant to be more serious (Churches et al., 2014, p. 197) . the dominance of emoticons on computer mediated communication evolved through the time to become known as "Emojis" which is wide spread through mobile mediated communication apps such as Face book , Instgram , Whatsapp and messenger .

2-6-2Emoji:

Emoji were first originated in Japan by Shigetaka Kurita (an employee at a Japanese company) in the late nineties it was initially intended to serve as an indication of affective states and emotions, comprising nonverbal information provided in real-world contexts through facial expression and other bodily markers(Dresner & Herring, 2010; Sakai, 2013; Maíz-Arévalo, 2015). Without the presence of non verbal cues in text messages most online

users were unable of indentify the right mood of the person who is texting them without the use of emoticons (Lo, 2008) , but in terms of creating a more optimistic attitude the combination of visual cues and texts outperformed words alone (Mitchell, 1986)While emoticons predominated in computer mediated communication (CMC) channels, emoji may be thought of as an advanced emoticon designed exclusively for mobile mediated communication (MMC) and generally seen as a technique for conveying meaning. Emojis were initially presented as 12 by 12 pixel images influenced by manga (Japanese comic books) and kanji (Japanese characters) (Cocozza, 2015; Novak, et al., 2015; Sternbergh, 2014). They became an immediate hit in Japan they were even recognized by the "UNICODE COSORTIUM". In 2009, Apple engineers formally requested that the Unicode standard add 625 additional Emoji characters. As a result, Emoji grew widespread and far too popular to be ignored. So this was the start of Emoji's acceptance as a medium of communication. G. Lucas

(2016), pp. 9-12.the Number of emojis kept rising to reach 1,282 emoji listed in the" UNICODE COSORTIUM" dictionary by 2015 (Cocozza, 2015; Novak, et al., 2015). In the same year Oxford Dictionaries even named 😂 (face with tears of joy) and it was acknowledged as the word of the year. Since then it has captured the attention of linguists whom undoubtedly begin to consider its significance function on online communication.

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2-7 Emoji as a symbol representative of emotions and nonverbal cues in online context :

Emoji are a significant medium for engagement and emotional communication on the Internet since they are nonverbal signs with rich emotional implications. . Cocozza (2015) emphasized the important emojis as they are more than just pretty happy faces; by declaring that they are true facial expressions, demonstrating their potential to communicate certain emotions. Emoji help to compensate for the loss of nonverbal cues in CMC by displaying emotion (Gülşen, 2016), transferring semantics (Walther and D'Addario, 2001), and increasing interpersonal engagement (Gibson et al., 2018). Jaeger and Ares (2017), for example, evaluated the emotional properties of 33 face emojis and discovered that the majority of them had one or more emotional implications. Walther and D'Addario (2001)

investigated emoticon "functional dynamics." to evaluate linkages between verbal messages and emoticons in doing so, they calculated the emotional intensity of verbal statements linked with emoticons. Through their research they came with three potential outcomes:

1. Positive supplementation (a production of a positive verbal message+ a positive emoticons)

2. negative supplementation (a negative verbal message + a negative emotion)

3. modification (a positive element + a negative element) having a generally neutral impact

The researchers also found that the intensity of emoticons my overpower the vocal utterance Walther and D'Addario (2001).For instance, the combination of contradicting elements such as: positive statement combined with a negative emoticons and vice versa may result a an implication of sarcasm. Similarly, Petra et al. (2015) classified emojis into positive, neutral

and negative In terms of emotional distribution, she came up with a conclusion that the majority of emojis convey pleasant feelings. According to related research, both types of Emoji (face and non-facial) have a lot of power when it comes to conveying emotions (Herring and Dainas, 2018; Jaeger et al., 2019). Jaeger and Ares (2017), for example, evaluated the emotional properties of 33 face emojis and discovered that the majority of them had one or more emotional implications.

It wasn't until 2015 that a large-scale examination of emoji emotional qualities was conducted by Novak, et al (2015) in which they investigated the following hypothesis: "Are the tweets with emojis more emotionally loaded? Do the presences of emojis in tweets have

an impact on the human emotional perception of the tweets?" (p. 5) the researchers recruited 83 human observers to extract emoji sentiment from tweets that included them Novak et al. (2015) created an emotion map of 751 emojis and analyzed the differences between tweets with and without emojis, more frequent and less frequent emojis, emoji locations in tweets, and emoji use in 13 languages (p. 3). In total, 1.6 million tweets in 13 European languages were categorized with negativity, neutrality, or positivity (Novak et al., 2015, p. 3). The study's findings led to the development of the first emoji sentiment lexicon, or the emoji Sentiment Ranking, and Novak et al. (2015) constructed a sentiment map of the 751 most often used emojis. The authors were even able to identify the emojis associated with pleasant emotions.

2-8 related studies:

Prior studies on emojis have mainly focused on three Angles:

1) The meaning of emoticons

2) The sentiments of emoticon

3) How emoticons are used

In terms of emoji feelings, No- vak et al created a sentiment dictionary for a significant number of emojis. (Novak et al. 2015) In this study, participants were asked to classify the

emotion of texts that included at least one emoji .The average score of all the texts where this emoji appeared was then used to get the emotion score of that emoji. They found that the majority of emojis are positive, and that the ones that are used more frequently are more emotionally charged

Tauch et al. investigated the sentiment effects of multiple emoji alerts on mobile phones (Tauch and Kanjo 2016). They observed that when the quantity of emojis in a message was large, the overall emotion of the message was unrelated to the text content. Moreover , Understanding how individuals see and understand emojis is a difficult task .however; Miller, Kluver, Thebault-Spieker, Terveen, and Hecht (2017, pp. 7-8) did a research in which they studied the same emoji across many platforms (e.g., Apple, Samsung, and Microsoft) to determine how frequently individuals misinterpreted the emoji, both with and without textual context The misconstrue ratings were calculated using sentiment analysis, which measures how individuals understand the overall meaning of the emojis. The various findings were then compared and examined to determine if people had similar perspectives on how to understand the emojis. Each participant received either a series of tweets with emojis or a single emoji to

do an emotional analysis on. They then repeated the test with many different emojis to determine how their misconstrue scores compared to one another. Some of the findings were that "joyful face" and "relieved face" was confusing and difficult to discern without textual context. The "grinning face with squinting eyes and chilly perspiration" emoji was another example of ambiguity. IN terms of meaning some emojis are considered being ambiguous. According to Weissman and Tanner (2018), individuals have difficulty comprehending them. Weissman and Tanner (2018) present intriguing findings that support this. One of the

sentences they provided to their participants was "the cake she made was terrible" and the sentence was matched with 😊 , ☹️ or 😉 emoji. The participants may then indicate whether the emoji was appropriately matched with the statement, mismatched, or used sarcastically. They found that the 😉 emoji was the most commonly interpreted as sarcastic, the other two emojis were also viewed as an ironic indicator in another exemplas provided for the participants. This signifies that the emoji affected the entire meaning of the statement (refrence : Weissman, B., & Tanner, D. (2018). A strong link between verbal and emoji based irony: How the brain processes ironic emojis during language comprehension. PloS one, 13(8), pp. 1-26) . Another study was held by Barbieri, Kruszewski, Ronzano, and Saggion (2016, p. 4) in where they investigated whether the semantic meaning of emojis matched across four languages (British English, American English, Spanish, and Italian). They came to the conclusion that the meanings were quite comparable throughout the four corpora (Barbieri, F., Kruszewski, G., Ronzano, F., & Saggion, H. (2016).

   The literature on emojis commonly claims that they can be used as an emotional display however others believe that non verbal cues of the face to face interaction cannot be translated to other interactions' settings a little research has examined the functional impact

Of the emoji and emoticon symbols (Walther, 2006). Through excessive review of literature there are not much scholarly studies about texting behavior patterns of Generation G aged participants in using emojis as an emotional displays in mobile mediated communication

Chapter three: Methodology

   This chapter explains the study methodology and equipment used to collect the data needed for our investigation. It describes the many stages of the research endeavor, such as participant selection, the questionnaire, data collection techniques, and data analysis.

   The study aims to better understand Generation Z participants' messaging behavior patterns while employing emojis as emotional displays in mobile mediated communication and if the absence of those non verbal cues may affect the meaning perception and therefore the conversation as whole.

3-1 Procedure

   The current study took place in May; a questionnaire was distributed in a Djillali Bounaama University English department to freshmen students in Khemis Miliana to enroll participation. They were chosen because it was a rational option for the required age range

3-2 Sampling:

   The current study included 5 males and 35 females' English freshmen students who choose to answer the questionnaire from Djillali Bounaama University, ranging in age from 18 to 25, which was in line with Generation Z 'specified age standards.

3-3 Data collection Instruments:

A questionnaire was used as a data collection tool in this study

3-3-1 Questionnaire;

A Questionnaire was distributed to English freshman students the Questionnaire consisted of 14 questions about text messaging behavior among mobile users. The Questionnaire investigated emojis activity. With various question types addressing various uses of the functionality varying from: the usage of text messaging; Frequency of text messaging behavior ; relation to the receiver of a text message ; Representation of text message behavior and the interpretation of text messaging behavior the those behavior matching questions are presented respectively as :

1 Do you use emojis? [Usage]

2 How often do use emojis? [Frequency]

3 I use emojis when texting my [the kind of connections between the sender and the receiver]

4 Do you feel more represented when you use emojis? [Representation]

5 Do you have a better understanding when emojis are used in text messages? [Interpretation]

3-3-2 Questionnaire description:

Personal information is collected in the first part of the questionnaire aiming at defining the participant's gender following that in text message behavior usage questions required "Yes" or "No" replies ; Respondents who said "Yes" were asked questions about frequency, relation, , representation, and understanding . The responses were filtered by the answer choices " NO i don't use text messaging apps " or " NO I don't use emojis " after apply these filters any responses that show up are inconsistencies as for example when a participant says that he /she doesn't use text messaging apps or He /She don't use emojis in text messaging and then

acknowledged to using them in subsequent questions. When spotting this kind of inconsistent responses of the participants their feedback will be deleted. In terms of behavior frequency, classifications of frequency levels were precisely specified to minimize inconsistencies in participant perception. The rating "Very frequently" was linked with employing a certain behavior "in practically every text; "Frequently" was associated with using emojis «in the majority of texts." The answer "sometimes" was associated with using the behavior in "just some texts" whereas "rarely" corresponded to "just a few texts." The response "Never" was presumed to be synonymous with never engaging in the behavior and was not specifically stated.   Two of the 14 survey questions concerned text messaging behavior usage and were including in the analysis and the findings .Whereas 6 questions of the survey were dedicated to text messages behaviors frequency used a five - point scale ranging from "Very Frequently" to "Never" previously specified scales those questions regarding the frequency of text message behaviors were added to demonstrate an involved attitude. The interpretation of frequency questions was guided by the following logic: the more frequently a behavior is used, the more favorable the attitude toward that conduct is. As a result, text messaging actions that occurred "Very Frequently" or "Frequently" showed a user's favorable opinion toward text messaging behavior or enthusiasm about it. Meanwhile Low frequency of action, as indicated by replies of "rarely" or "never," showed a negative attitude or lack of emotional support.

4 of the survey questions were dedicated to text message behavior and relationship. Emoji were used as part of the behavior. These questions cover the following four relationship types: family (described as parents or siblings), friends, romantic partner (explained as

boyfriend/girlfriend/spouse), and acquaintance the linkage of texting habit and a participant's relationship with the persons in question was measured using a 5-point Likert scale. Ranging from "very frequently" to "never" as well this sort of inquiry is illustrated as the following example " I use emojis when texting a romantic partner" in which the texting massaging behavior under examination is emoji whereas the relationship under examination is "a romantic partner" . These questions were created to display varying patterns of relationship shifting from intimacy, closeness to acquaintance impact texting decisions to include or exclude certain texting messages attitudes these questions were included to investigate if certain texting techniques are more prone to be used in certain forms of relationships than other relationships.

2 of the 14 questions concerned representation and comprehension the purpose of these questions was to see if respondents believed they could effectively communicate their emotions or interpret the emotions of others by employing emojis. "Yes" "no"; "not sure" were set as option responses. Although the rating of responses is kind of limited in comparison to Frequency and usage questions designs, these particular questions were designed to create transparency as these types of questions about emotional expressions and comprehension of other's emotion maybe a bit challenging to explain the idea was that fewer possibilities would reduce complexity and increase directness.

These questions attempt to see if, like in FtF discourse, digital nonverbal codes assist in the transfer of written discussions in MMC.Moreover, emoji generation lent itself to specific applications that needed to be treated. These questions were chosen based on previous research. It is agreed that some of those questions need to be removed because they are leading questions. The goal, however, was to put present cultural conceptions of emoji

utilization to the test put common cultural emoji use standards to the test. To determine whether past rationales for the text messaging behaviors under consideration in this study are comparable or general. These inquiries do not match into the previous list of question forms and will be presented individually.

 "When I'm texting I use emojis to express myself or how I 'm feeling" this question was added particularly because prior study has revealed that the usage of emoticons is strongly related to emotion representation and understanding so the current study aims at identify if that can be applicable to the emoji usage .

   After defining the question styles and emoji text within examination the survey result will be provided for patterns or interesting findings.

3-4 Summary:

   Throughout this chapter, we discussed the data collection method materials that formed our research, which include sampling instruments. We also discussed the procedures and detailed information of the instruments we used in our study, providing a detailed description of each component of the questionnaire, which was the instrument, used to complete our data collection. The survey results will be offered for patterns or interesting findings in the next chapter after establishing the question format and emoji text inside examination

Chapter four: Results and Analysis

The major goal of this chapter is to investigate and compile statistics on Emoji behavior in mobile-mediated communication. This chapter looks at the information acquired from the questionnaire in order to create a well-organized framework. Finally, we compile the results of the total investigation to validate or refute the hypothesis. The methodology chapter described all survey questions, thus the findings for all those 14 questions will be presented and evaluated. According to statista research department the mobile operating system (OS) market in Algeria is dominated by Google's Android. It controlled over 95% of the mobile operating system market in June 2021, with the remaining operating systems accounting for less than 6%. Most of survey respondents were predicted to be "Android" users, and the findings confirmed this assumption as 34 out 40 indicated they were Android users "Ios" was ranked the second.


Figure 1: most dominated operating system
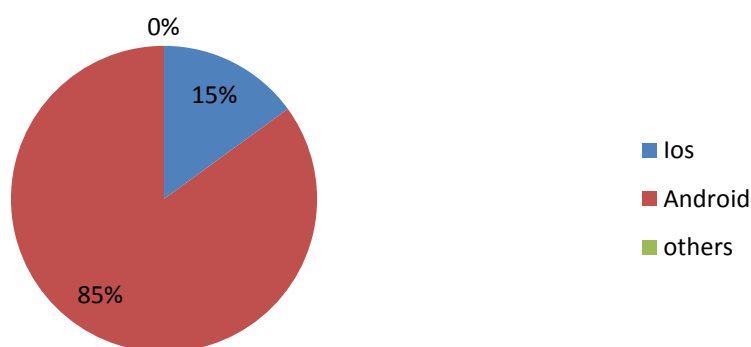
Emoji usage in texting:

   All participants acknowledged using Emoji (100%) thus that highlights its overwhelming dominance in both mobile systems. it exist many versions of Emoji that they are not addressed in the survey   it's vital to remember that Emoji might refer to a variety of different things and they aren't all covered in this study . Similarly , the use of text messaging among the respondents is vital as they all identified its usage

figure 2: do you use Emoji in text messaging ?
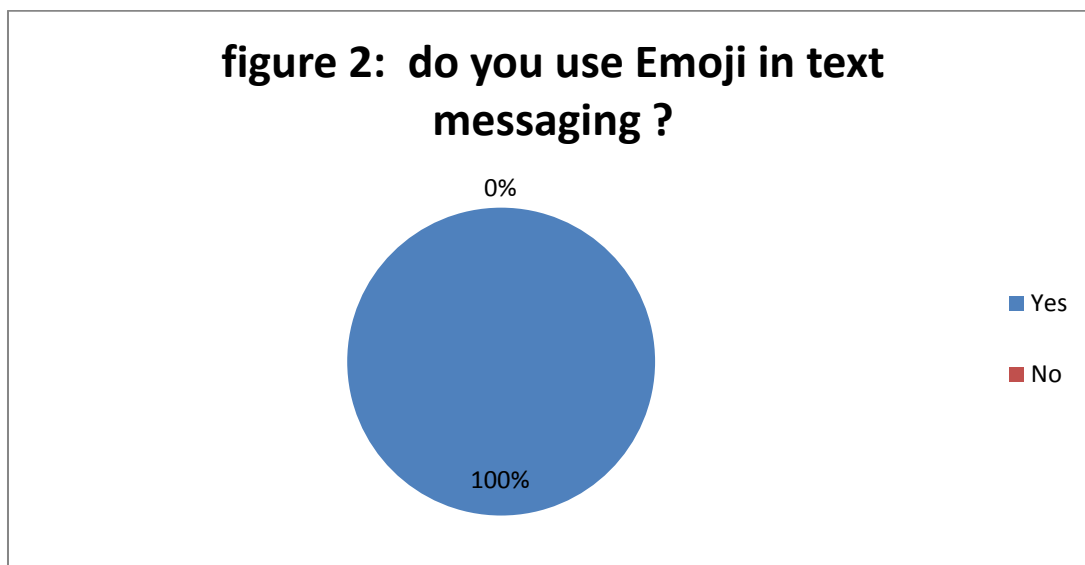
Most of the participants were females and that may affect the credibility of this research as regarding emotional research, most studies report that women refer to emotions more often than men (Thomson and Murachver, 2001). A graph detailing gender of participants is below:
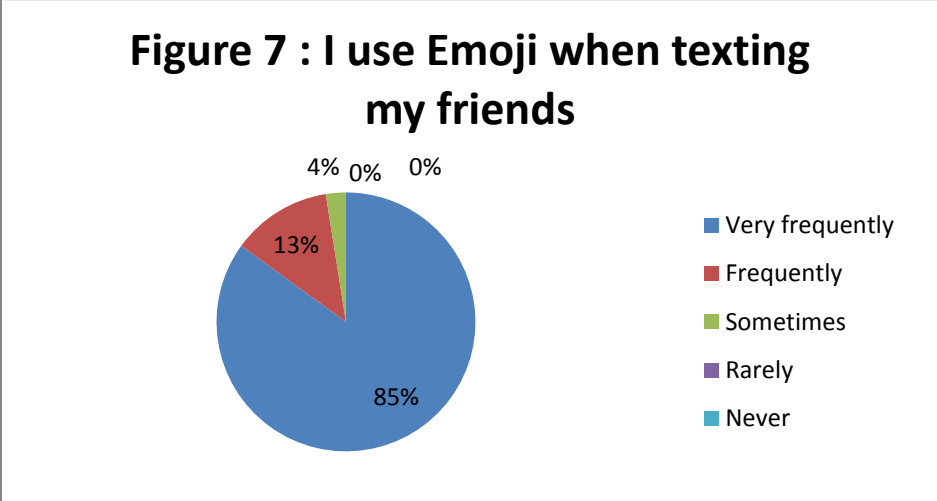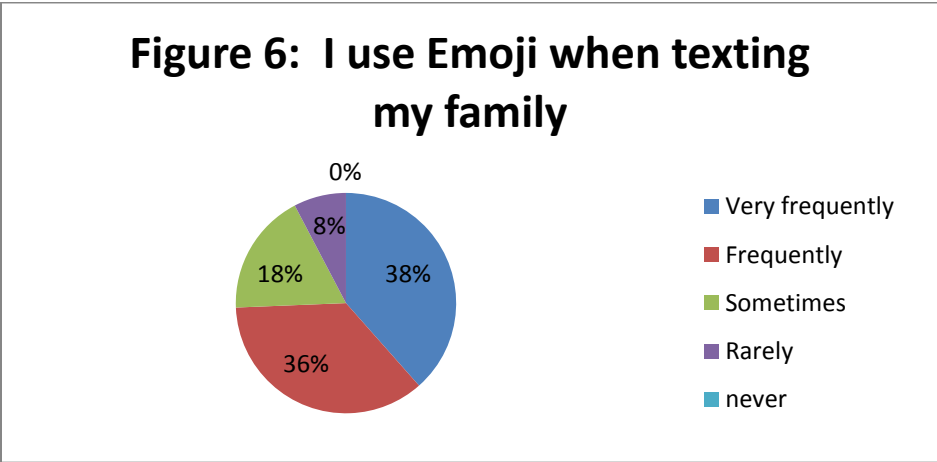
Figure4: Select your gender
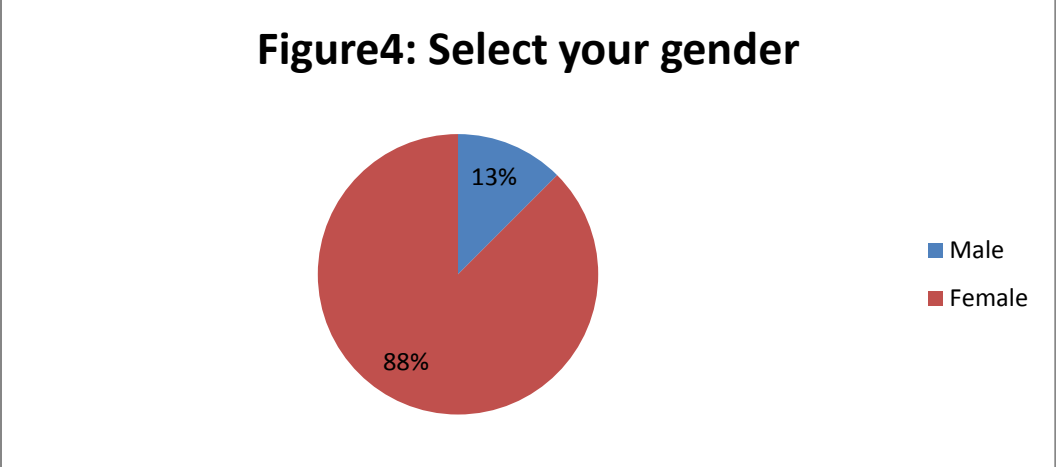
About the frequency of emojis use in texting 20 out of 40 respondents choose "very frequently" (50%). "Frequently" was ranked the second (25 %)   that indicate the overwhelming usage of Emoji in texting and it is demonstrated in the following graphics:
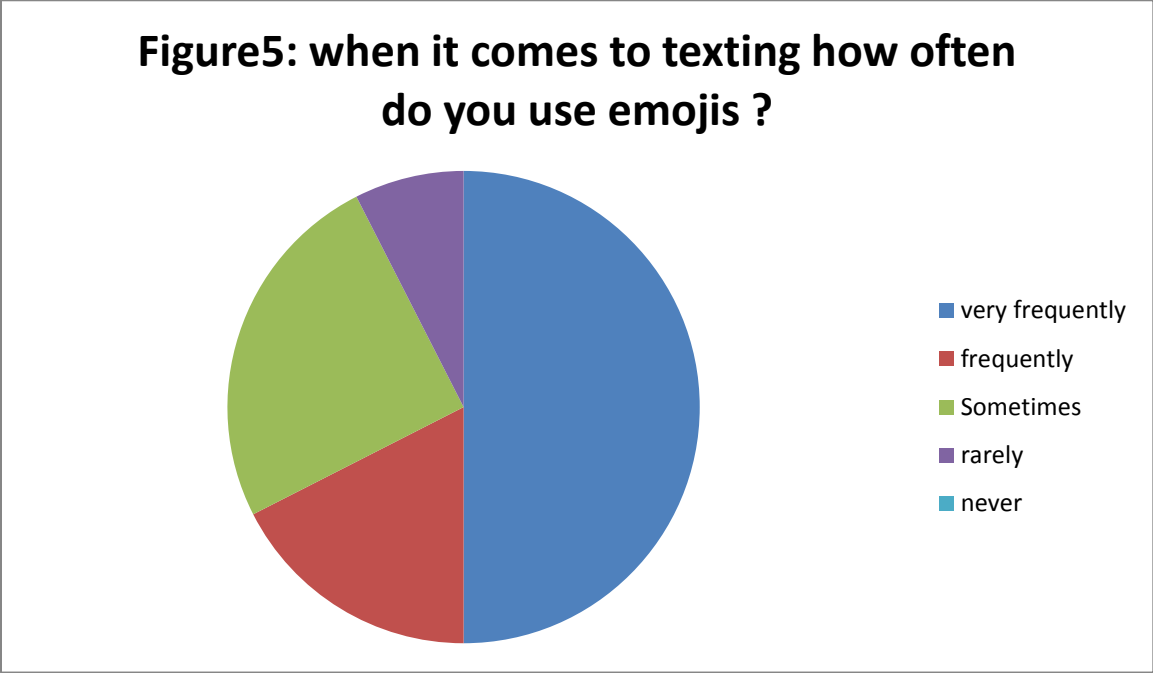
Figure5: when it comes to texting how often do you use emojis ?

Relationship usage:

In terms of relationships most of the population tends to use Emoji "very frequently" when texting friends, romantic partners and family. However, more than half use emojis" sometimes "when texting acquaintances that can be demonstrated in the following figures.

Figure 6: I use Emoji when texting my family

- Very frequently
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- never

0%
8%
18%
38%
36%

Figure 7 : I use Emoji when texting my friends

- Very frequently
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

4% 0% 0%
13%
85%

Figure 8: I use Emoji when texting romantic partner

2% 0% 0%
18%
80%

- Very frequently
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely

Figure 9: I use Emoji when texting acquaintances

5%
8%
22%
13%
52%

- Very frequently
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
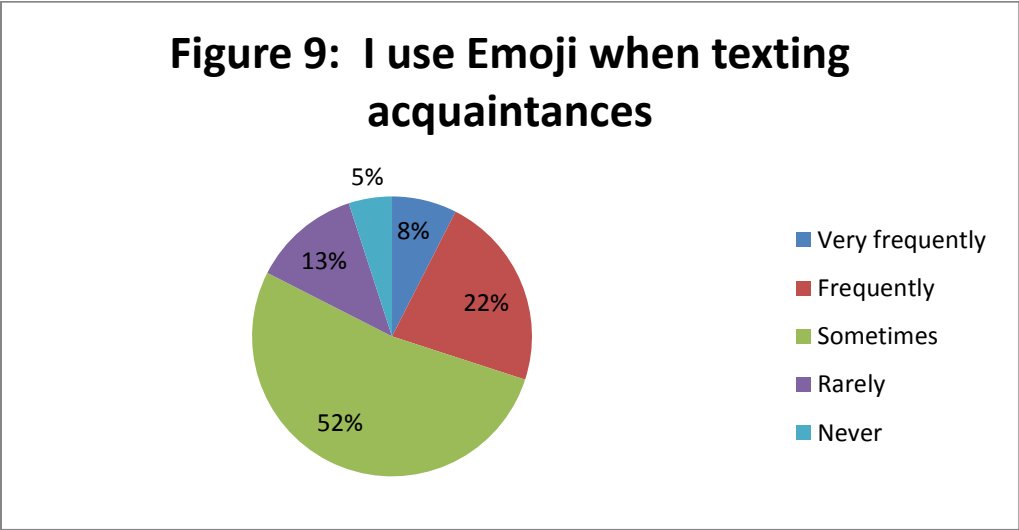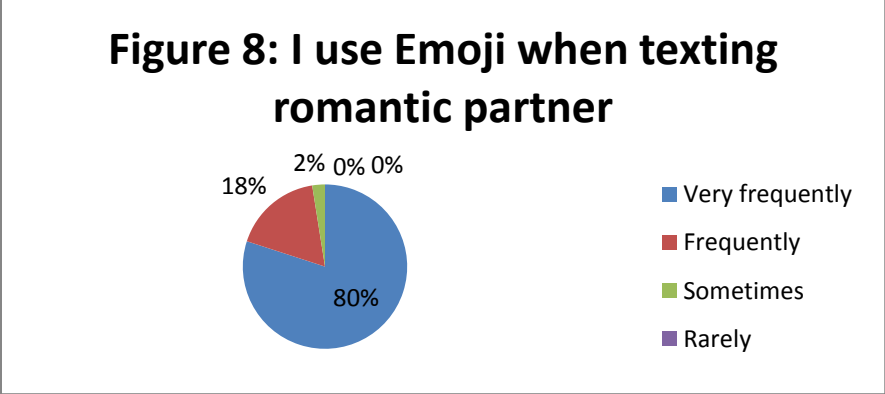
   There are some interpretations that this data provides, such as "friend" relationships, "family" relationships, and "romantic partner" relationships. Has a natural propensity fo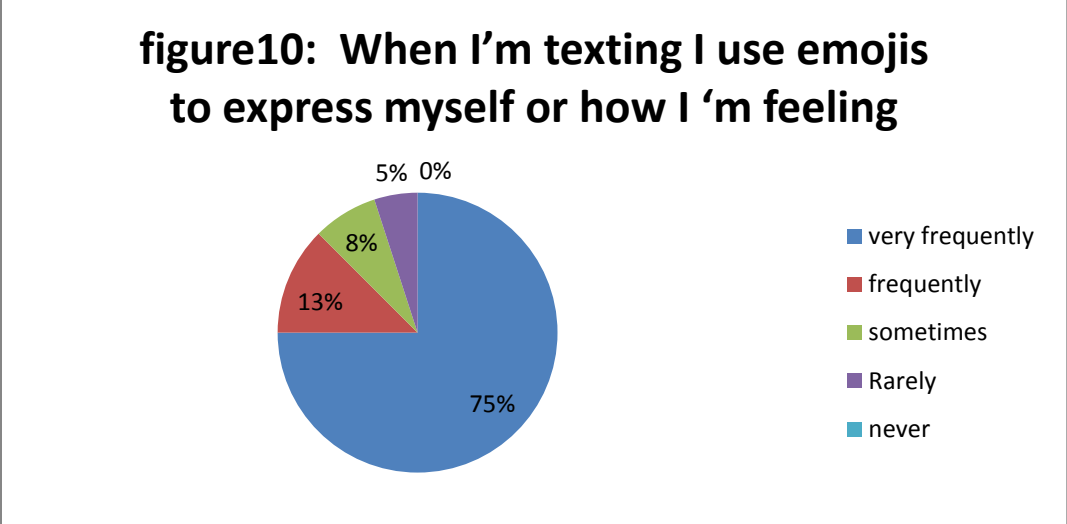r making the most of Emoji usage, which can be indicative of MMC. Users who choose to use The Emoji as a non-verbal digital symbol. Intimacy may be one of the reasons that respondents choose to use Emoji with "friends," "family," and "romantic partners" within "Generation z," indicating that Emoji can be used as emotional surrogates or self-expression devices. As previously stated, the more intimacy between relationships resulted in a higher frequency of Emoji use, whereas the detached unfamiliarity of the acquaintance relationship type resulted in a lower frequency of Emoji use.

   Notably, when asked, "I use Emoji while text messaging to convey my emotions or depict my emotional state," the majority of population identified this as a very frequent or frequent behavior.

figure10: When I'm texting I use emojis to express myself or how I 'm feeling

5% 0%
8%
13%
75%

- very frequently
- frequently
- sometimes
- Rarely
- never

That highlights the overwhelming emotional effect of Emoji use. Also, when asked if participants understand text messages better when Emoji are used most participants said (34participant) yes the remaining few 6 participants answers varied from" no" and "not sure" as it is shown in the figures below
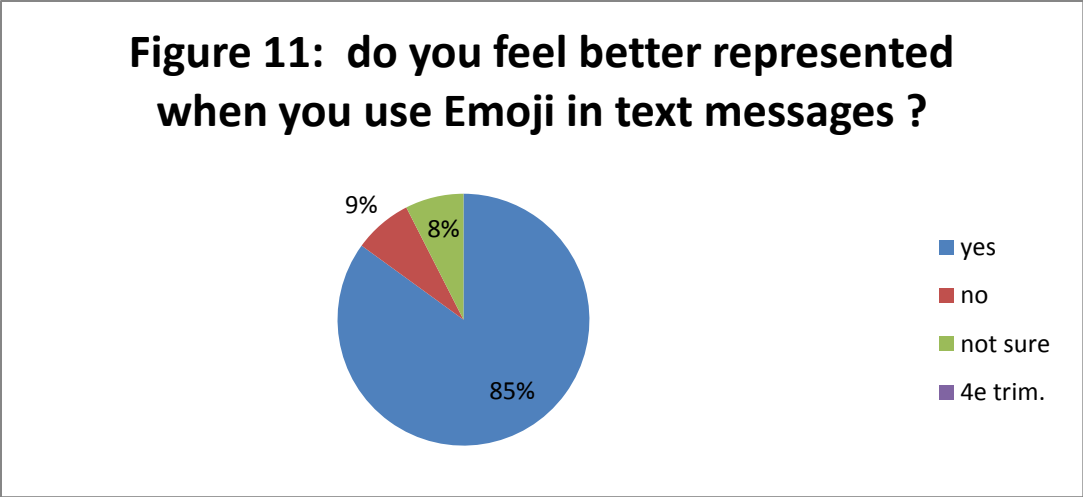
Figure 11: do you feel better represented when you use Emoji in text messages ?

9%
8%
85%

- yes
- no
- not sure
- 4e trim.

45

Figure 12: do you understand text massages better when Emoji are used ?

0%

40%

60%

- yes
- no
- not sure
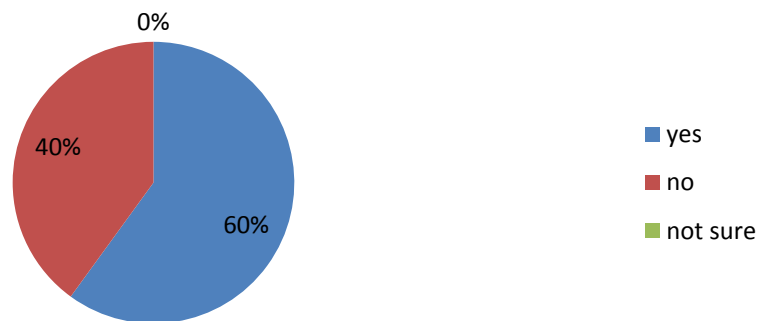
After going over the survey results, it's time to discuss how the popularity of text messaging habits includes some non verbal cues which can be used to convey and interpret meaning. In mobile mediated communication

Discussion

After establishing the fundamental guiding principles of nonverbal communication, the context of the gen z culture in which both nonverbal and mediated communication occurs, and precise insight into one survey pool's use of common text-messaging behaviors, it's time to show how traditional nonverbal coding terminology can be translated to MMC. This will be performed by going through nonverbal coding structure, function, and behaviors again, as well as examining FtF nonverbal codes for "translation potential," or the prospect of a digital nonverbal translation or presence. This section seeks to explain why mobile text messaging is such a popular mode of communication by demonstrating how the existence of digital nonverbals has helped to maintain the integrity of face-to-face interactions by helping transferring emotions through the mobile texting.

Previous nonverbal communication theorists and ideas stated that when a discussion does not take place face to face, there are fewer nonverbal codes available and the communication experience is less successful as a whole. Multimodality is the main rationale for this perspective; the more nonverbal signals are employed, the more warm or intelligible a communication episode will be (Walther, 2006). However, many nonverbal codes were considered to be incapable of reincarnation by theorists, however, as this research shows, the nonverbal emotional displays have a major presence in mediated communication, notably MMC.

A theorist , who has studied CMC extensively, states that "the more cue systems accessible, even by using text alone, the better communicators may be able to attain intended or desired levels of emotion" (Walther ,2006, p. 464). Furthermore, (Riggio, 1992) states, "Interestingly, members in virtual groups have created a number of imaginative techniques to

substitute for the missing nonverbal clues in computer communication" (p. 130). Finaly, Generation Z MMC users construct intricately prepared text messages to mimic their culturally trained nonverbals in mobile conversations. Conventional FtF visual codes emerging in a digital setting provide a new nonverbal communication area. .Aaccording to (Krohn ,2004) " Traditional interpretations of nonverbal communication underestimates the use of emotions in computer-mediated communication and none of the conventional nonverbal communication theorists predicted the use of emojis as nonverbal communication...they managed to fail to visualize nonverbal communication in electronic communication .

However, emotion isn't the only thing that has changed to fit MMC. Aside from emoticons, the previously established "digital affiliation cues" of Sherman, Michikyan, and Emoji are a form of digital kinesics. Emoji are capable of repeating what is communicated, such as "I love you ❤," as well as substituting for sections of or the complete text message, such as 👍 for "Good work." Emoji may serve to supplement or clarify text messages. Take the following message as an example: "I have to work late☹." In this case, the emotional understanding provided by the Emoji complements the content in the communication it might suggest that the sender is not happy about the late work. In the meanwhile, The emoji also expresses the sender's particular emotional mood. While the language itself may indicate dissatisfaction (after all, nobody likes to work late?) "I have to work late" is ambiguous. The sender is irritated by the fact that he is working late; nonetheless, the individual is enraged. An equally suitable emotion for having to work late might display as a sadness "I have to work late ;" however using an emoji that conveys anger allows the message recipient to verify the precise meaning of the text message. Emoji complement text messages; but even more so emoji clarify text messages, not only does this ensure the exchange of correct information, but

also it guarantees an authentic interaction between recipients because emotional sentiment is preserved.

Emoji also contradict the text message, which typically invites playful or sarcastic interpretation (Krohn, 2004; Cocozza, 2015). In keeping with the previous example, the contradictory message "I have to work late 😂," may indicate   sarcasm. The fifth nonverbal function emoji possess is the ability or emphasize or elaborate the text message: "I'm so excited you're coming!" can be emphasized and elaborated with the multimodality of emoji: "I'm so excited you're coming 🤭 🥳 ".

Emoji may also censor text messages in addition to these features. Nonverbal signals such as hand gestures and body movement, according to Scherer (1980), assist to determine the pace of a discussion, as well as provide organization, style, and punctuation. Emoji use in MMC may be seen of as setting conversational rhythm or moderating or controlling text messaging in the same manner. One of the most important element of Emoji as a digital nonverbal is their potential to control text communications.

The role of emojis   is consistent with their kinesic role of repeating, substituting, complementing or clarifying, contradicting, emphasizing and elaborating, moderating, and regulating text messages.

Emblems, according to Ekman and Friesen (1969), are employed to soften the effect of what is expressed vocally. The ability of Emoji to moderate MMC connects to the final Emoji function: regulation. Not only do Emoji regulate text, but perhaps more accurately Emoji regulate MMC in its entirety and unify communications across device applications. Symbols

may be translated verbally. According to (Burgoon, et al., 1996) the following emblem characteristics are tested in FtF communication and appear in MMC as symbolic Emoji:

- They have a straightforward verbal interpretation and can stand in for the words they represent without changing their meaning.

- Majority or all individuals and groups are aware of their specific meaning.

- They are most commonly used on purpose to send a message.

- Receivers see them as significant and purposefully conveyed.

- They are the responsibility of the sender.

- Also when exhibited out of context, they convey an obvious significance

With text messaging, there is always prevention of verbal exchange. Emblems are used when verbal communication is not possible or ideal, Emoji is a symbol of a digital device with a direct spoken interpretation that is widely recognized by all individuals and groups, society, or culture (Ekman and Friesen, 1969). That suggests that different individuals that belong to the same culture may have specific emblems that only those individual can understand, demonstrating how the generation as a culture understands the use of Emoji. There are a few symbols that might be better termed "illustrator" or movements that specifically point to an object.

According to (Friesen and Ekman , 1969) People are virtually always conscious of their use of symbols; that is, they recognize when they are using an emblem, can repeat it if asked, and will assume communication and social responsibility for it.

Similarly, the usage of a symbol is typically a purposeful, intentional endeavor to convey.

Generation z's texting habits for expressing emotions in mobile mediated communication study case: Emoji use

One of the most significant role of Emoji added to the ones that are mentioned previously it can also serve as kinesics emotion display .The affect display portion of the kinesics code is concerned with the face and, more specifically, facially portrayed emotions. The affect display can be linked to verbal actions by repeating, qualifying, or refuting what is said vocally, or it can be wholly distinct (Ekman & Friesen, 1969). According to Littlejohn and Foss (2011), affect displays are inherent and fundamentally programmed. Happiness, surprise, fear, sorrow, wrath, contempt, and curiosity, according to Ekman and Friesen (1969), are widely recognized affect manifestations. The authors suggest that if viewers can discriminate between these seven emotional states while watching the human face, the scientist assumed then there must be some specific clues in a facial presentation that might be coded (Ekman & Friesen, 1969). Furthermore, the authors point out that these affect displays may be noticed both inside one's own culture and between cultures (Ekman & Friesen, 1969). This indicates that deciding whether or not to express an emotion, and which emotion to display, is based on opinion. Age, gender, ethnicity, and geographical region may all influence how someone handles their emotional presentations.

MMC users use Emoji to more carefully, more articulately, and authentically illustrate a facial expression. Littlejohn and Foss (2011) believe affect displays are innate and intrinsically coded. This means how one determines if it is appropriate to display an emotion, and what specific emotion will be displayed, depends on personal experience. Age, gender, race, and geographical location can also contribute to how one manages his or her affect displays. Emojis can have different meanings based on the circumstances, nature of the relationship, and the combination of emojis used. Yet elasticity of meaning or fluidity does not detract from universality, but rather enables it. Emoji can serve different roles across

relationship contexts as well as cultural definitions of, and uses for, emoji differ throughout mini-cultures.

The affect display is Ekman and Friesen's (1969) technical term for facial expressions. MMC users can use emojis to create a more specific and authentic facial expression. With emoji, the possibilities for affect blends are infinite, the potential for creativity endless. The Unicode Consortium has added new skin tones for emojis representative of the Fitzpatrick scale. Text messaging is a form of digital nonverbals, or digital vocalists, which allows text message users to compensate for the lack of vocal cues such as voice quality and pitch. Digital vocalics in MMC operate as "any vocal-auditory mimicry" (Burgoon, et al. 1996, p. 58). There are numerous ways to construct an auditory sound or a vocal sound into text messaging, which is why Trager's (1969) classification system and levels of classification provide the roadmap for understanding the manifestation of digital vocalic mimicry.

There are another forms of digital non verbal that function as non verbal cues in mobile mediated communication such as Typed laughter, excessive capitalization, excessive punctuation, and letter repetition embody the remaining five nonverbal functions of the kinesics digital nonverbal Emoji. Typed laughter functions regulate MMC allowing interact ants assurance of shared interpretation and lessening the emotional ambiguity. Repeated letters ("I have to work laaattteee") primarily function to clarify the text message, emphasize the text message, and to accent the text message. Letters allow for the unique voice of the MMC user to reincarnate in text messaging, which provides a more accurate representation and transference of an individual's communicative style. Excessive punctuation enables the opportunity to diversify text message language with intensity and pitch. "I'm excited to see you!" now conveys sincere excitement to see you, while "I have to work late?" seems, on a screen at least, to imply the opposite. The exclamation point is minimally acceptable

enthusiasm ('no way!'). But a period just comes off as sarcastic . MMC interact ants use response time to moderate and regulate communication. Response time includes both punctuality and silence. According to Rice (1990), email users focus on the time stamps placed on messages automatically, inferring from them when a message was sent and how much latency it took before one of their own messages received a reply. Nardi, Whittaker, and Bradner (2000) "Members make biased attributions for.response delays, assuming personal rather than situational causes for lags by distant teammembers" (p. 347).

Limitations and future research

This study has a number of limitations, as well as several avenues for further research. First and foremost, the lead researcher acknowledges that the choice of topic reflects a personal perspective on the relevance of Emoji and text-messaging behavior to traditional communication theory and academia. Multiple modifications and adjustments have been done, as well as the implementation of the thesis committee's advice, in order to minimize infiltrations of personal opinion and prejudice. The principal investigator recognizes that bias may persist, but impartiality and neutrality were the aim, and the purpose was to raise awareness and nothing more .

Because today's gen z college students utilize a variety of operating systems, it's plausible that different emoji design styles influenced this study. The predominant operating system utilized, as seen in the findings, was Android (80 percent of participants.)

Generation z's texting habits for expressing emotions in mobile mediated communication study case: Emoji use

According to statista research department the mobile operating system (OS) market in Algeria is dominated by Google's Android. It controlled over 95% of the mobile operating system market in June 2021, with the remaining operating systems accounting for less than 6%. Due to that , it's possible that individuals using android smart phones may use them more regularly and voluntarily. Finally, this opens the door to more studies on how Emoji are utilized in comparison to individuals who do not use an android system.

It's crucial to remember that the user is often affected and driven by "the real world" while speaking in the virtual world when it comes to MMC and text messaging activities (DuncanHowell, 2009). As a result, when respondents completed the survey, they may have been reflecting on individual behaviors from that day rather than broad texting patterns or personal tendencies. Emoji use is sometimes a spontaneous response to an event, scenario, or occasion in the real world that a user wants to convey into the virtual world, rather than a conversational or even relational connection. Situations like this illustrate the emoji's adaptability as well as its intricacy.

Furthermore, the sorts of relationships mentioned in this study were the most basic, which may have been confusing to study participants. When questioned about the frequency of emoji use with family members, there are a number of different family ties, and the results are ambiguous as to whether the scores indicated a preference for using emoji for siblings (shared generation) or for texting parents cross-generationall usage.) It would be fascinating to learn more about GEN Zl's effect on earlier or last generations' adoption and usage of emoji in future studies.Furthermore, while there has been study on text messaging's impact on romantic relationships (Schade, Sandberg, Bean, Busby, & Coyne, 2013), little is known about how text-messaging practices vary depending on the kind of relationship. For example,

while messaging a love relationship, are MMC users more flirty and generous with Emoji use?

This study looked into nonverbal codes as they relate to MMC functions including replacing, modifying, acceptingg, and so on. A prominent nonverbal theorist suggested Nonverbal codes may also be used to structure interaction, create and manage identities, form and manage impressions, communicate emotions, define and manage relationships, regulate talks, influence others, and deceive other(J. Burgoon , 1996) . Furthermore, this study only looked at the texting habits of generation Z participants, despite previous research showing that emoji are becoming popular across all generations and ages. There are several possibilities to research the linguistic patterns and trends of emoji users of different ages, and possibly comparing knowledge and frequency of use throughout generations might be a good method to determine the overall influence of emoji on modern culture.

While this study focused on communicative emotions, there is still much more to learn about how digital nonverbals may be utilized to deceive, persuade, control conversations, and manage relationships.

The relationship between nonverbals and deception has been the subject of much nonverbal theory study. As a result, everyone learns social display rules throughout their lives, and these have the potential to be translated into emoji as well. . It would be interesting to learn if the use of emoji, the kind of emoji used, the amount of emoji used, and the combination of emoji used are utilized in deception or to influence display rules.

This study has shown a number of limitations as well as research potential for future investigation. There are many more restrictions and potential areas of future research that aren't included here. "...as new technologies evolve... the requirement for conceptual and

empirical clarity concerning nonverbal cues, their roles, and their re-representations will become even more crucial," Walther (2006) writes about nonverbal behaviors and digital communication. More detailed analysis of nonverbal cues, both those that are absent and those that may be replaced, will be crucial in the future development of more complex theories and better interfaces" (pp. 473, 474).

This study deals with the emotional function of Emoji as the concept of nonverbal cues manifesting as digital nonverbals in mobile-mediated communication (MMC). MMC is not limited to mobile phones, for tablets as well can foster MMC.

General Conclusion

This research looked at GenZ texting habits in order to learn more about how nonverbal coding aspects work in text messaging interactions. The goal of this study is to demonstrate the existence and significance of Emoji usage in 'Gen Z' mobile devices, as well as its emotive expressions. Because of its users' capacity to include nonverbal clues to help in successful conversation, MMC has become the main communication medium. As a result, this research intended to decipher MMC users' core functions and standardize digital nonverbals in order to better comprehend their behaviors.

Overall, nonverbal coding is a complicated communication theory with numerous intricacies and complexity that are still being debated by current theorists today. Nonverbal codes are difficult to detect and understand in face-to-face communication and equally difficult, if not more difficult, to detect and understand in computer-mediated communication. Even while translating a predominantly FtF theory to a CMC theory is challenging although it has been dealt with by various researchers

According to the current study findings, due to the availability of digital nonverbal cues, mediated communication might be emotionally charged. When generation z individuals types a text message, they takes into account different factors such as the relationship type The recipient's personality, as well as the recipient's interaction tendencies. From there they improve text message generation to the point that MMC users can compose properly tailored messages and engage in sophisticated conversation management.

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Appendix

Learners' Questionnaire

Dear students,

We would like to ask you to help us answer these questions. Your responses will be kept

completely confidential, and your assistance is greatlyappreciated.

Part 1- Personal information

1-your gender:

Male ☐

Female ☐

2- Specify the type of mobile you use that help with data analysis

IOS (Phone) ☐

Android ☐

Others ☐

No ☐

3-DO you use text messaging apps?

Yes ☐

NO ☐

4-Do you use emoji's when texting?

Yes ☐

No ☐

5- When it comes to texting how much do use emojis

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

PART2:

1-When I'm texting I use emojis to express myself or how I 'm feeling

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

2-I use emoji'swhen texting my family

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

3-I use emoji's when texting my friends

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

4-I use emoji's when texting a romantic partner

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

5-I use emoji's when texting an acquaintance

Very frequently ☐

Frequently ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

6- I use emoji's only when the other person uses them first

Yes ☐

Maybe ☐

Not sure ☐

No ☐

PART3:

1-Do you use emojis literally, figuratively or both?

Literally ☐

Figuratively ☐

Both literally and figuratively ☐

Not sure ☐

2-Do you feel better represented when you use emojis in text messages

Yes ☐

No ☐

Not sure ☐

3-Do you understand text messages better when emojis are included?

Yes ☐

NO ☐