

## COOL, FUNNY OR DUMB?

As a young person, you probably want to be the cool and chilled one who gets on with everyone with confidence and ease. The reality is that most people need to develop this confidence, and it takes practice.

Being yourself is a winner. It will be something that other people will look up to. You are unique, and you don't need to pretend to be somebody else to join the 'in group'.

Make your own friendships with people who like you as you are. Sometimes in our efforts to be cool and fit in we can do dumb things to 'get noticed'.

Look at the 8 scenarios below then rate them on the scales provided based on how cool, funny and/or dumb you think they are. A low number is not cool / not funny / dumb, while a high number is cool / funny / clever. If you feel "meh" about something, give it a 5.

1. Terry works at a tyre repair shop. He's the newbie, and the others like to give him a bit of a hard time and enjoy playing jokes on him.

One sunny afternoon, Terry is asked to fetch a yellow Yaris parked 800m down the road.

As he goes to get the car, people Terry passes on the footpath look at him and smile. He is confused.

When he gets back, Terry tells the others that people seemed to be smirking at him like he was some sort of crazy person. A workmate suggests he has a look in the mirror at the back of his overalls. He does this and discovers that someone has stuck a sign on him that says '*I am lost and looking for my mother. Can you help?*'



### Ratings

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever

2. Marcus is on the first day of his job as orderly in the hospital. He has been asked to push an elderly man in his wheelchair down to the radiology department to have an x-ray.

Marcus is meant to wait outside until the x-ray is done so he can take the man back to his hospital bed, but he gets bored after a few minutes and decides to take the wheelchair for a spin down the hallway.

As he is spinning along a nurse comes out of a side room and he crashes into her.



### Ratings

not cool    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    cool

not funny    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    funny

dumb    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    clever

3. Hore has a scaffolding job that he enjoys. He is strong and great with heights, and the boss thinks he's an excellent worker. The boss has even promised Hore a raise if he keeps up the good work.

One day, Hore is working 5 stories up with his mate Brett. Soon after Brett disappears around a corner, Hore smells marijuana.

When Hore challenges Brett, he tells Hore to chill as the dope makes him feel more focused and confident.



### Ratings

not cool    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    cool

not funny    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    funny

dumb    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    clever

4. Sophie is driving into work at 5am. She lives 20km out of town on a country road. She is stuck behind a slow truck.

Sophie realises she is going to be late so decides to text her boss. She considers herself an expert at driving the car with her knees while she texts.

Sophie smiles as she drives around corners with just her knees on the steering wheel.



#### Ratings

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever

5. John works on a share milking farm. He gets up at 4.30am every day to bring the cows in for milking. Lately he's been feeling lonely, tired and bored with his job. He thought he would love this life but is now not sure.

On Saturday, after finishing the morning milking, John has the rest of the day off. He heads into town to hang with his mates, who give him a bit of a hard time about working on a "cow farm". John just laughs it off.

The boys head to a bar, where several girls are waiting for them. John likes one of the girls and wants to look cool in front of her. When one of his mates starts up again about him being a cow farmer, John is not happy. As his mate goes to sit down, John pulls the chair away. His mate falls to the ground, knocking over the table and spilling the bottles of beer and cider onto the floor.



#### Ratings

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
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6. Mere works party-time as a kitchen hand in an upmarket restaurant while she completes her home science degree.

She has made friends with the other staff at the restaurant, and they often have a good laugh together.

Mere found out last week that it will be the chef's birthday on Saturday, so the other staff decide to play a trick on him.



Mere organises for the chef's wife to come into the restaurant just before closing time. She orders two mains, one being pork ribs, which is her husband's favourite meal. The chef is grumpy about the late order. After the meal has been served, she calls one of the waiters to the table to say that she is unhappy with the ribs and wishes to discuss this with the chef.

The team have the wife seated with her back to the kitchen, wearing a scarf over her head. The chef is in a bad mood as he thinks no one remembered his birthday, and he is tired and hungry. He marches over to the table to ask what is wrong with the ribs only to discover that it is his wife sitting there with a big smile on her face. All the team come out of the kitchen singing happy birthday.

### Ratings

not cool    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    cool

not funny    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    funny

dumb    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    clever

7. Sam works on the waste collection truck. He likes the job because it keeps him fit for league and he's finished by noon, which means he has time to go to the gym before league practice.

On this day, Sam is having a good day. It's warm and sunny, and the rubbish is all in bins or bags. Sam does sprints on the footpaths and mucks about running backwards and vaulting fences.

At one point, Sam asks the driver if they can make a toilet stop, which the driver agrees to. When he gets out of the toilet, the truck is down the other end of the road. It turns out the driver decided that, given how much energy Sam has, he could just sprint to catch up.



#### Ratings (Sam)

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever

#### Ratings (driver)

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever



8. Taylor works in a sport shop. She mainly helps people choose swimwear.

On one particularly busy day, the shop is full of groups of young people. A young guy comes up and asks Taylor if he can try on some Speedos. She tells him he can but that he must keep his underwear on.

The boy comes out of the changing room a little later, wearing nothing but the Speedos and his boxers. He asks Taylor if they fit him. She feels embarrassed but tells him they look fine. The boy then starts wandering around the shop in the Speedos.

Taylor decides to play a prank on him, taking his clothes out of his changing room and putting them in another one. After the boy has finished strutting around, he comes back to find that his clothes are missing. He asks Taylor if she's seen them, but she says she hasn't. He looks panicked.



#### Ratings (Taylor)

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever

#### Ratings (boy)

not cool	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	cool
not funny	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	funny
dumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	clever

## Final Questions

What makes behaviour dumb?

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What makes behaviour cool and chilled?

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What makes behaviour funny?

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