

**Origin**

* First mentioned by Richard Dawkins to describe the spread of cultural ideas: “an idea, behavior, style, or usage that spreads from person to person within a culture. “ (“Meme”)
* Usage gradually changed to mean: “an amusing or interesting item (such as a captioned picture or video) or genre of items that is spread widely online especially through social media” (“Meme”)
* Often starts as a memorable moment from popular media (TV, movies) and made a screen shot that then gets captioned. (Goodman 3)

**Popularity**

* Memes can be found on several social media sites, including iFunny, Twitter, Tumblr,Reddit, 4chan, YouTube, etc. (“Know your Meme”)
* Many believe they rose in popularity because they are quick, easily understandable sources of amusement for people “killing time” on their electronic devices. For example, the average attention span of an internet user is 8 seconds (vs. 9 seconds for a goldfish...hmm…), which makes a single picture ideal. (“What are Internet Memes”)
* They are easy to share and create (“What are Internet Memes”)

**Examples**

* Memes from random pictures include Doge, Ermagerd Girl, and Ridiculously Photogenic Dude. (“Know your Memes”)
* Memes from popular culture include Arthur’s Fist, Neil Degrass Tyson Reaction, and Nicolas cage. (“Know your Memes”)
* Memes from cartoons/user generated memes include Forever Alone, Rage Guy, and Me Gusta Guy. (“Know your Memes”)

Works Cited

Goodman, William. "Here Are The Origins Of The Internet's Most Meme-orable Memes." *The*

*Huffington Post*. TheHuffingtonPost.com, n.d. Web. 30 Jan. 2017.

The information found on this website is accurate because it have a well-known publisher and an author.

"Know Your Meme." *Know Your Meme*. Cheezburger Network, n.d. Web. 30 Jan. 2017.

The information on this website is accurate because it is current and thoroughly researched, with an extensive site that is searchable for specific information.

"Meme." *Merriam-Webster*. Merriam-Webster, n.d. Web. 30 Jan. 2017.

The information on this website is accurate because it is a well-known publisher that is constantly reviewed and revised.

"What Are Internet Memes And Why Did They Become So Popular?" *Diary of Dennis*. N.p., 17

Aug. 2016. Web. 30 Jan. 2017.

Although this information comes from a blogger, the information I found is accurate because the author used multiple sources to support their claims, indicating it is well-research. He also linked to the information, which I verified to be from the sources he claimed.