

The Boys from Liverpool

The sound of the music was quickly drowned out by the deafening screams of thousands. To the audience the silhouettes on the high platform stage looked like gods. As the earsplitting shrieks of crazed fans echoed throughout the enormous stadium, four young men fueled the audience's piercing screams and drove thousands into a state of Beatlemania. The Beatles, commonly known as the "British Invasion," took our world by storm from the era of "Happy Days," a charmingly simple and carefree time, to a new revolution. They rocked our world, as well as their own, with their unique sense of music, fashion, and lifestyle.

Comment [RW1]: Fantastic introduction, Caitlin. You have created vivid, fascinating images in the reader's mind, and you channel that interest directly into your thesis. Great job.

Comment [RW2]: "by storm, taking us from..."

The Beatles music sensation swept the nation. Their different techniques were a refreshing twist from the old-school music of Elvis Presley and the Beach Boys, who relied mainly on guitars and vocals. In many of the Beatles' albums they used instruments from around the world such as the sitar and harmonium. In addition to these instruments, the band invited orchestral musicians to collaborate with them on new song ideas. Another one of the Beatles newly developed techniques were to use everyday sounds in their recordings. Some of these sounds consisted of swirling water in a bucket, the sound of an alarm clock ringing, and someone blowing bubbles through a straw.

Comment [RW3]: No need for this extra space.

Comment [RW4]: comma

Comment [RW5]: Great details throughout this paragraph.

Comment [RW6]: Beatles'

Comment [RW7]: "was"

Not only had the Beatles music engulfed the nation, but also their distinct sense of fashion which later became the 60's signature style. The Beatles introduced many new styles into the everyday lives of teenagers, one of them being the "Mop Top Hair." This

Comment [RW8]: Good transition from the previous paragraph!

Comment [RW9]: Beatles'

Comment [RW10]: comma here

Comment [RW11]: 60s'

shaggy bowl cut was now worn by a vast majority of male teenagers everywhere and many discarded the decades-old crew cut style. The Beatles also brought forth the age of wild colored clothing, gaudy beads and medallions, and the trend of wearing casual clothing to events instead of suits and skirts. John Lennon was passionate about wearing vibrant colored clothing; he and the Beatles made this especially known in their 1966 album *Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club* in which they were seen clad in Technicolor revolutionary war era clothing on their album cover and in concert.

Comment [RW12]: Redundancy: try just "male teenagers everywhere."

Comment [RW13]: Comma after "everywhere"

Comment [RW14]: Wordy: try "flaunted this" or "made this obvious"

Comment [RW15]: This ought to be capitalized.

Comment [RW16]: "widespread"

The music and fashion trend the Beatles laid down had a wide spread impact everywhere, but nothing was more pronounced than their effect on young people's attitudes and lifestyles in the heart of the 60's. When the 60's began families spent a tremendous amount of time together, there were close knit communities, and teens were less likely to be blatantly rebellious towards their superiors. But in 1964 the Beatles invaded our country as well as the hearts and minds of teenage girls and boys everywhere. This invasion hammered their beliefs on everyone through their music and interviews. They introduced antiwar beliefs in America and young people's patriotism for their country dropped to an all time low. The Beatles experimented with LSD and other drugs; unfortunately many teenagers emulated this behavior and fell into drugs' addictive hold. Along with these beliefs the Beatles made people of every age and gender go crazy the minute the Fab Four stepped into a room. Because of these crazed fans, the Beatles often found themselves confined to their hotel rooms, only able to leave their prison when escorted by the police. Beatlemania continued to plague the minds of teens, and made the Beatles realize that their fame had escalated way out of control. John

Comment [RW17]: no apostrophe

Comment [RW18]: comma here

Comment [RW19]: Whose – the Beatles or the teenage boys and girls?

Comment [RW20]: hyphenate this

Comment [RW21]: hyphenate this as well

Comment [RW22]: comma here

Comment [RW23]: comma

Comment [RW24]: "and it"

Lennon then stated these sad, yet powerful, words: “The Beatles are better known than Jesus Christ.” Many look back today and nod sadly at how true that statement really was.

Comment [RW25]: should be a period, not comma 😊

There is no doubt these four young men impacted our lives as well as their own through their music, fashions, and lifestyles in both positive and negative ways. Perhaps George Harrison said it best when he declared: “The best thing that ever happened to me was getting into the Beatles; the second best thing was getting out.”