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Counter Strike Culture

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Counter Strike Culture

Posted on November 1, 2003 by Editor

By Jesse Snyder

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“LOL OMG N00B” is something you probably wouldn’t hear or see if it weren’t for video games. Legions of gamers communicate with a lingo that resembles random keyboard mashings from a caffeine-induced fit of rage. You might also see strange acronyms appear on cell phone messages, emails, or instant message programs. However, outside of the butchering of the English language, there’s an entire culture of youth who are a part in something called “Counter Strike Culture.”

Counter Strike is one of the most popular online video games. At any given point in time, thousands upon thousands of players will be virtually planting bombs, trying to diffuse bombs, and trying to kill each other. The premise of Counter Strike is terrorism and anti-terrorism. Players can choose to be on either the terrorist team, or the anti-terrorist team. The terrorists must plant a bomb; the anti-terrorists must prevent the bomb from being planted, or diffuse it. However, the interaction between players in game like Counter Strike is something now being widely studied.

Counter Strike culture is easily spotted. There’s a ton of specialized lingo that goes on in the game. For example, you’ll see many variations of the word “newbie,” usually composed of letters and numbers. At times, the shortened “noob” might be “n00b,” with zeros instead of o’s. Sometime you’ll get the occasional “newb” or “nub”

If you’re a good player, you’re considered to be “elite.” However, rarely will you see “elite,” rather...
you’ll see “1337.” The 1 represents and l, the 3’s represent e’s, and the 7 represents a t. If you were to pronounce this, you’d hear the word as “leet.”

This kind of misspelling and new slang is transformed on a daily basis. If you lose, get shot, or if another players simply beats you badly, you just got “owned,” or “0wn3d.” Players like to exchanges letters with numbers whenever possible. Sometimes, players make up their own suffixes like “- z0r3d,” or “-z0r3d.” Say your player was just killed from across the level. The player who just owned you might say “0wnz0red n00bl!”

This slang, known as “leet speak (1337 5p34k)” is actually pretty easy to get the hang of after a while. “LOL” stands for, “laugh out loud.” Saying LOL in-game is a way of letting other players know you find something humorous. “WTF” stands for “what the f***,” and is an exclamation of surprise. For the first time player, this language might be confusing, but after deciphering numbers into letters, learning the lingo is easy to do. [1]

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Counter Strike, because of its competitive, online nature, is known for hosting many players who find ways to cheat. For example, players can download “aim bots” which are programs that run outside of the game and are able to control where the player shoots. Aim bots are programmed to aim the weapon directly at an opponent’s head instantaneously. This makes the game very easy to win for the cheater, since all they must do is click and they’ve killed their opponent. Another common cheat is a “wall hack,” which allows players to see through, and sometimes shoot through walls. This is useful for obvious reasons.

Because of these cheats, players who are “owning” during a match are looked at very suspiciously. When a player makes many kills in a row, its not uncommon to hear cries of “\V/411h4>< (wallhax; -x replacing the -cks sound)” and “41\807 (aim bot).” Players also use other characters, like slashes, greater thans, less thans, and other punctuation to make their lingo as different as possible. At times, players will joke with one another, shouting “wallhax! 😁” simply because a player is good.

Counter Strike isn’t the only game where Counter Strike culture persists. Most online games run rampant with Counter Strike culture. However, Counter Strike was one of the first popular online shooter games, and still is. Most, if not all online games are played by a range of ages, but the very young gamers (gamers who probably shouldn’t be playing the game anyway) are the people most affected by Counter Strike culture.

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What I’m starting to see now is the creeping of Counter Strike culture into everyday life for some younger people. They have a difficult time seeing the line between what is acceptable online, and what the social norms are in real life. For example, I’ve read reports of English teachers having to
correct sentences like “i h8 wrk it sux.” This translates into more work for English teachers, and students who have a tougher time comprehending longer, more complicated words and sentences. Some lingo changes I’m fine with, such as “I just owned this test!” when a student does well on a test. Slang is expected to change over time.

While the changing of the lingo and mincing of the English language is not a huge concern, another common theme with online gaming is homophobia and sexism. Many gamers are young and immature. They call each other “gh3y” as a common insult. Many players don’t understand that if they were to call someone gay as an insult in real life, many people would find it highly offensive. Calling someone gay is not much different than calling someone the “n” word as an insult. As a schoolteacher, I’m constantly telling my students it’s not acceptable to say, “That’s so gay,” or tell people they’re a “homo.”

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In any event, my point is not to harp on the negative influences video games have on our youth. In fact, I’m an avid gamer myself, and have been known to own some newbs (and get owned) from time to time. I think video games are a great way to interact with other people and have a good time. I’ve met some really nice people online though gaming I would not have otherwise. However, every so often, some really immature gamers push the boundaries of socially acceptable behavior. When Counter Strike culture starts interfering with real life activities, problems can arise. Be on the lookout for Counter Strike culture, it won’t be going away anytime soon.

[1] If you’d like to try your hand at this seemingly confusing language, check out http://web.pdx.edu/%7epsu24075/leet.html, which is an online “1337 speak” translator.

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13 THOUGHTS ON “COUNTER STRIKE CULTURE”

portal

on January 30, 2014 at 7:09 AM said:

thank u … these kinds of a interesting topic

social network

on January 30, 2014 at 11:36 AM said:
Hello, you applied to write excellent articles, but the last several articles were kinda boring… I miss your very good articles. Past several posts are just a smaller out of track!

nigeria
on January 30, 2014 at 1:57 PM said:

Hi there! I know this can be kinda off topic even so I’d figured I’d ask. Would you be interested in trading links or possibly guest writing a blog article or vice-versa? My internet site addresses plenty of the same subjects as yours and I think we could greatly benefit from each other. In case you happen being interested be my guest to send me an e-mail. I appear forward to hearing from you! Terrific blog by the way!

Doyle Sumerlin
on January 30, 2014 at 6:17 PM said:

I have been surfing on-line greater than 3 hours lately, but I by no means discovered any attention-grabbing article like yours. It

prawo
on February 1, 2014 at 3:39 AM said:

you’ve any? Kindly permit me realize so that I may just subscribe. Thanks. as well conceive so , perfectly written post! .

dryer vent cleaning
on February 2, 2014 at 2:58 PM said:

I’m no longer positive the place you’re getting your information, but good topic. I must spend some time learning much more or working out more. Thank you for fantastic info I was looking for this info for my mission.
joyce banda
on February 2, 2014 at 3:24 PM said:

No matter if some one searches for his required thing, thus he/she wants to be available that in detail, therefore that thing is maintained over here.

joyce banda
on February 2, 2014 at 7:31 PM said:

I will right away clutch your rss as I can not to find your email subscription link or newsletter service. Do you’ve any? Kindly let me know in order that I could subscribe. Thanks.

appliance repair tampa
on February 2, 2014 at 7:45 PM said:

Have you ever considered publishing an e-book or guest authoring on other sites? I have a blog centered on the same topics you discuss and would love to have you share some stories/information. I know my viewers would value your work. If you’re even remotely interested, feel free to send me an email.

weight loss
on February 3, 2014 at 10:37 AM said:

It’s going to be end of mine day, however before end I am reading this enormous post to improve my experience.
on February 4, 2014 at 10:21 AM said:

upset for your huge review, but I’m incredibly loving the article, and hope this, as well as the great assessment some other persons have written, will help you determine if it is the appropriate alternative for you.

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nigeria entertainment news
on February 4, 2014 at 10:32 AM said:

Hey, thank you for ones feedback! I would suggest that saying “God died on a cross” is not particular ample theological terminology to accurately describe what happened there. Vague terminology like which could lead to deviant thinking about the trinity. Of course I don’t believe it’s the cardinal sin to use vague phrases, but I believe it can reveal our confusion with regards to the trinity.

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nigeria entertainment news
on February 4, 2014 at 10:42 AM said:

Hi there, Sorry for ones lengthy comment Thanks for sharing your article, following time can you write about wart removal products. Also is there any proven house cure for skin warts? Can you suggest me some? I live in Canada. Please dont forget that some stuff might not be offered in my area. That is certainly why suggest me general points that will be discovered everywhere. Also would you recommend buying wartrol online? is it not dangerous?