

Is your pet proud of you?

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For those of us who own pets, the thought of what they might think of you has probably crossed your mind at least once. Are you being a good pet parent? If it's a cat or a dog, their saliva being sloshed across our faces the moment we get back home is a common greeting. Some of us are also greeted by incessant shouting/screeching in multiple frequencies in case it's a bird. But maybe they're actually complaining and you're just not paying attention. Maybe in *petspeak*, they are just complaining about your futile attempts to be their favourite humans.

What would it be like if they actually started talking? Let us assume for a moment that these bundles of joy (or grief) are fluent in a language we can understand. Here are just a few things they may be speaking to you about:

TOO MUCH PLAY TIME

"For the last time Susan, I AM TIRED. You're not the one who has been fetching that stick for the last hour," Max yelled in perfect English, unable to contain his frustration. Susan, of course, couldn't believe her ears, or her eyes, for that matter. Awestruck, she involuntarily drops the stick and stares at Max, who at this point is completely disappointed and having lost all faith in his human, decided to leave her at the park and storm out of the area.

GROOMING

Oscar watches his owner slowly chop off his fabulous silky fur in a questionable attempt at grooming him. Carl had chosen not to take Oscar to the cat groomer in order to save himself the hassle. Oscar

could sense Carl ruining his image one snip at a time and was trying his best not to lash out until he could hold it in no more.

"Carl, why does my fur look like someone ran a lawnmower through it?" said Oscar as he glared at his human.

Carl stopped in his tracks. Silence. A single drop of sweat trickled down his right cheek as he looked at his talking cat and just as he was just about to let out a squeal, Oscar leapt at him and scratched away at his face relentlessly.

"THIS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IF YOU WOULD HAVE JUST TAKEN ME TO A PET SALON, CARL!" Oscar shouted. Carl would speak and apologise but he was too busy trying to shield himself from Oscar's claws. Never again, Carl thought.

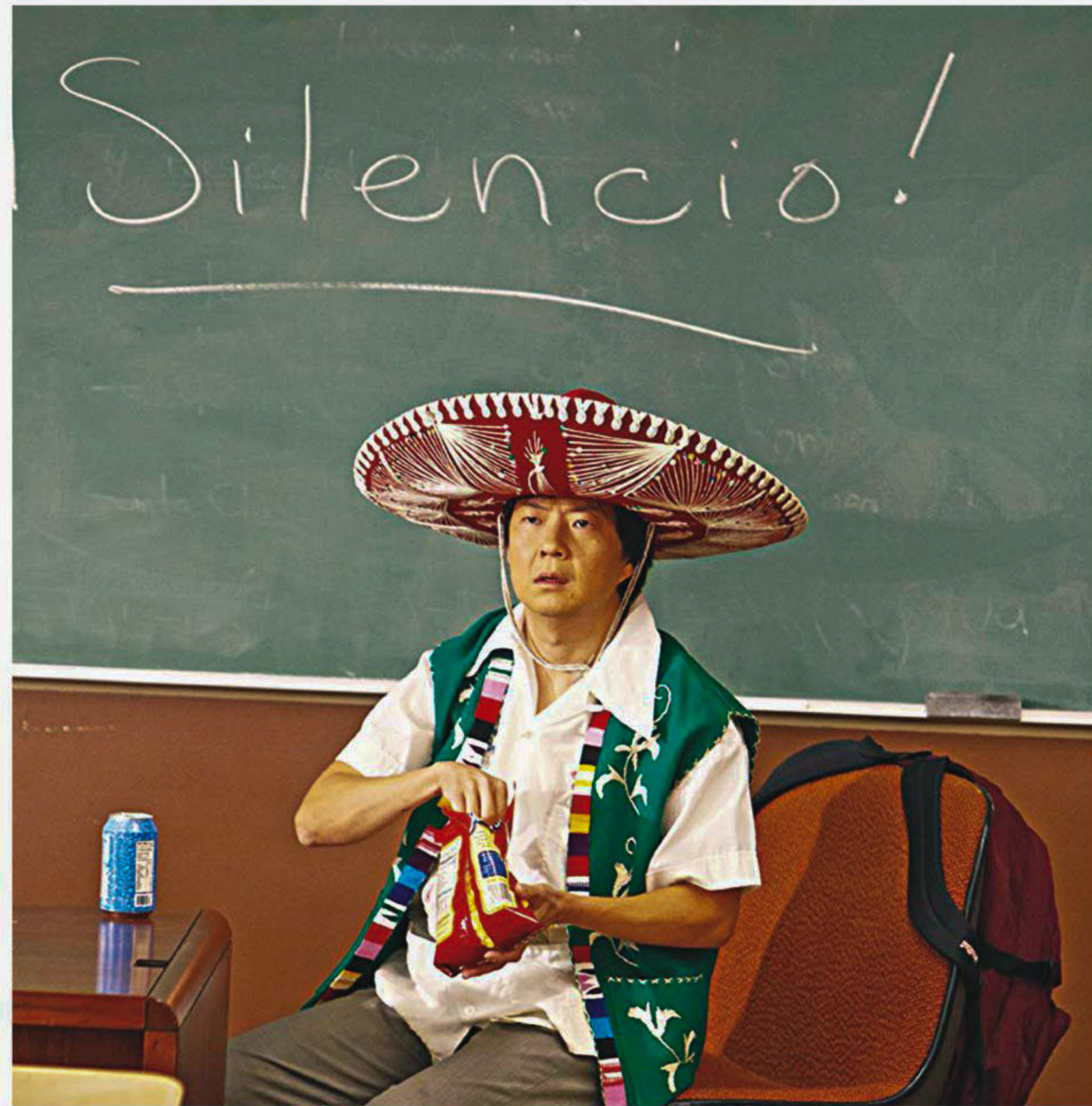
FEEDING PREFERENCES

Karen tossed the fish bones at her cat, Tandoori, who has been trying to help her get a hang of his ever-changing preferences for a while now but seems to be failing miserably.

"Karen, the fish tail you gave me last night for dinner was the same fish tail I have been refusing to eat for two consecutive nights. Pay attention, woman!" Tandoori exclaimed, utterly frustrated.

While life would be a lot easier if this utopia were in fact the reality, it isn't unfortunately and it is your divine responsibility to understand and love your mini-me because you are all they have.

Afsara spends most of her time drawing Pepe in various color combinations while singing along to EDEN. Do not bother her at [facebook.com/afsaraakhan](https://www.facebook.com/afsaraakhan)



COMMON UNIVERSITY PET PEEVES

FAISAL BIN IQBAL

University isn't really the bed of roses we all thought of back in our school days. It's a lot tougher and has more work load. As if things weren't difficult enough for university students, you have these annoying people and situations to deal with that is bound to get your gears grinding.

CLUB OVERLORDS

Joining clubs as a part of your co-curricular activities as well as for recreational purposes is quite common in university. It also gives you the opportunity to bond with some amazing people making new friends and associates along the way. But sometimes, clubs can become rather annoying, especially when you have club seniors bossing you around. You will often find such overlords in your club who will think that you're trash beneath their feet and they will go on to exert their club constitutional powers over you. One of the main reasons why many students don't want to join clubs. "Club politics" is what they call it.

PEOPLE WHO TALK WITH SUBTITLES

"Hey, how are you? *Kemon asish?*" – This is what I mean when I say "talking with subtitles." People will literally finish the sentence in English and immediately restate whatever they said in another language, because they just assume that you have difficulties understanding the first language they used. That is never really the case is it? At least not always, which enlists them in our pet peeves list.

TOO MANY PEOPLE

The common scenario in the private universities. Every semester, new students enrol in the various programmes the universities have to offer. This doesn't help the fact that the university campus is a finite space, often consisting of nothing but a few buildings and will make the available space only more crowded. As an existing student of the university, you'll probably lose your mind seeing all the new faces who will be breathing your air now. Not to mention the queues for the elevator will only be getting longer.

INCOMPETENT TEAMMATES

Group projects or assignments are common in every course that is taken. They may seem interesting and fun at first glance but often things can take a turn for the worse. Especially when you have teammates who are not ideal. "Ideal" is too big a word, let's just say they're useless. That is the moment you realise that your grade isn't the only thing that needs saving for the semester, so does your team.

8 AM CLASSES

In this stage of your academic life, you'll not only be busy with academics but at the same time, you'll need to look over other important matters such as your co-curricular activities or part time jobs. Also, you need a bit of peace and time for yourself. All these will find you sleeping late at night. This wouldn't have been a problem, but thanks to early morning classes, it is a major problem. Not having enough sleep can also result in lack of attention and a tiring feeling throughout the day.