

## The Secret Side of Emojis

Most people know what a smiley face 😊, heart ❤️, or thumbs-up 👍 means. But did you know that some emojis have *hidden meanings* that aren't always obvious? The emoji language has grown to include thousands of tiny pictures, and many have special meanings that can surprise even regular texters.

For example, the **folded hands emoji** 🙏 is often used to mean "thank you" or "please," but it was originally designed in Japan to show someone *bowing* in respect or prayer. The **sparkles emoji** ✨ might look decorative, but people often use it to show something special, exciting, or new - like saying, "✨ Just finished my project! ✨"

Another tricky one is the **upside-down smiley** 😏. It doesn't just mean you're happy - it usually shows *sarcasm* or a joking tone, like when someone says, "Oh great, another Monday 😏." The **eyes emoji** 👁️ is also interesting. It can mean "I'm watching this," "That's suspicious," or "Did you see that?" depending on the context.

Even animals can have secret meanings! The **snail emoji** 🐌 might mean someone is moving slowly, and the **octopus** 🐙 can sometimes stand for a friendly hug - because of all those arms!

Understanding these emojis helps people express humor, tone, and emotion online. They also remind us that emojis, like words, can change meaning over time and depend on how people use them.

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What does the folded hands emoji 🙏 originally represent?

- A. Saying thank you
- B. Asking for help
- C. Bowing or praying
- D. Saying goodbye

2. What do people often use the sparkles emoji ✨ to show?

- A. Sleepiness
- B. Excitement or something special
- C. Sadness
- D. Anger

3. The upside-down smiley 😏 often shows:

- A. Fear
- B. Confusion
- C. Sarcasm or joking
- D. Happiness

4. What can the eyes emoji 👁️ mean?

- A. Someone is watching or noticing something
- B. Someone is sleepy
- C. Someone is crying
- D. Someone is surprised by noise

5. What does the passage suggest about emoji meanings?

- A. They are only used in Japan
- B. They never change
- C. They can change and depend on how people use them
- D. They always mean the same thing everywhere