

What's in Tyler's Bag

Tyler's bag contents were very much on the opposite end of the spectrum to mine, and while he does not consider himself to be a millennial, his items are indicative of a person who is at ease with technology. He had an adapter cable, chargers and a laptop, among other tech items, but also carries older text technologies. His preference is to record his students' names and grades by hand in a notebook. Tyler also carries a French dictionary and a French grammar book. All the knowledge contained in the pages of these large and heavy books could be easily found by performing a quick search on his laptop. I would argue that typing in a word and being fed the definition would be much faster than looking up the word in said dictionary. The comfort it brings Tyler to carry these books with him to leaf through everywhere he goes reinforces his observation that he "grew up analog but came of age digital". The reader understands that both old and new text technologies are valued in his day to day life.

In contrast to Tyler, my bag carried very little text technology and was void of technology that I would consider to be new. Items like my axe, multitool and matches show a relationship and understanding with nature that isn't always common today.

Tyler used the same theme as me on his blog. I wanted to look at content in a layout similar to mine through the eyes of my peers. I gravitate towards minimal designs on the web and don't like having too many distractions that might pull me away from the content I'm trying to absorb like hyperlinks, video clips, etc. That being said, I think and both Tyler and I could have incorporated a few interactive elements in some of our posts. I did a quick look through a number of his tasks. Like mine, the background remains constant throughout and posts feature

a photo near the top and then text. It becomes predictable for the user. For me, that's comforting and allows for the focus to be on the written content. For other classmates that might rely more heavily on visuals or auditory stimulation, our sites might not be the most engaging. Perhaps I'll shift my focus for my last weekly assignments and make an effort to add in different kind of content beyond the text.