

Basic

- 'Social media are primarily Internet-based tools for sharing and discussing information...'
- 'Social Networking is more an act of engagement'

Reasons we use social media

- o Chatting with friends
- Sharing things
- Meeting people
- o Being part of a group
- o Playing games
- o Studying
- o For entertainment
- o For business brand building
- o For marketing advertising

Vocabulary

- To **go viral** = to spread quickly (videos or posts)
- To **scroll** = to move up and down (on a screen)
- To **swipe** = to move left and right (on a screen)
- A **vlogger** = person sharing their personal life on video
- A **blogger** = person sharing their personal life by writing a blog
- A meme = a funny way to spread ideas and behaviour
- **Cyberbullying** = to attack and intimidate on the Internet

Vocabulary

- A **troll** = someone who flames and upsets other people on the internet
- An **influencer** = someone with a large following on the Internet who can have influence over others
- **Phishing** = Pretending to be someone else so you can steal their ID, credit card, personal info....
- **Streaming** = the continuous transmission of audio or video files
- Data privacy = keeping your data (personal information private)

The Pros / The Advantages/ The Benefits/ The Upsides

- Keep in touch with family
- Keep in contact with....
- Keep up to date with...(the news, family...)
- Making friends online, especially during lockdown
- Broaden your circle of friends
- To gain/acquire/get knowledge

- Learn new cultures
- Convenient to get news / get the latest news / get breaking news
- Get good recommendations for products and ideas
- Develop a business
- Sell products and advertise your business on many platforms
- Build a brand / influence

The Pros / The Advantages/ The Benefits/ The Upsides

- helps us **socialize** better.
- connects **companies** with **customers directly**.
- makes it easy to share positive and negative news
- make people aware of something happening.
- "caters" to our needs and likes.
- shows us more of the things we enjoy seeing.
- great for doing business.

The Cons / The Disadvantages / The Drawbacks/ The Downsides

- It can be addictive
- A waste of time / wasting time
- It's time-consuming
- lose track of time when looking at social media
- waste a lot of money buying unnecessary things online
- fake news / incorrect information
- It easily **distracts** us

- Intellectual property violations
- lead to mental health issues
- negative body image
- perfectly filtered bodies
- lead to low self-esteem/ comparison issues
- get a stiff neck if you are staring at screens
- lead to eyesight problems
- Cyberbullying is rife (=common) in many social media platforms

The Cons / The Disadvantages / The Drawbacks/ The Downsides

- lose the ability to **communicate face to face**.
- lose **confidence** by comparing themselves to everyone else.
- easy to manipulate people with fake news and facts online.
- focus on their **own personal image** and lose the ability for **compassion** and **care**.
- many types of **frauds** and **cheats** on social media all the time.
- Exaggerated fake advertising.

IDIOMS

- You can get **hooked on** social media (=addicted to)
- It **rubs** some people **up the wrong way** = it annoys or irritates
- I don't like everything about it, but I **put up with** it = *to tolerate*
- It's great for spreading the word or getting the word out = giving a message/information
- Tik Tok has really taken off (become successful), it's all the rage (= it's very fashionable)
- When a new platform becomes popular, everyone jumps on the bandwagon. (= follows the fashion)
- I like to while away the hours (=spend time in a relaxed way) scrolling on Instagram

IDIOMS

- Alive and kicking in networking
- **Throwing shade** = expressing "sad"/ "angry"
- In the blink of an eye posting
- Get your wires crossed by commenting
- To kill time by surfing/ watching
- A race against the clock such as creating videos
- **Get a foothold** reading news, watching events

- **Blow your own trumpet** declaring/starting something new
- Cry wolf = trolling/ alerting
- **See eye to eye** = liking/loving posts (with reactions)
- **Keep me posted** = sending files
- **Hot off the press** = knowing what's latest/trending
- **Drop someone a line** = direct messaging (DMs)
- To touch base = renewing contacts
- **Give someone the low-down** = exchanging facts/details

- Are you a social person?
- Do you use social networking sites?
- What kind of people do you like to be friends with on those websites?
- *Do you like to use Facebook?*
- How did you first find out about Facebook?
- Will you use these sites more in the future?
- Is there anything you don't like about social media?
- How much time do you spend on social media sites?
- What kind of information about yourself have you put on social media?

- When did you start using social media?
- Do you think you spend too much time on social media?
- *Do your friends use social media?*
- What do people often do on social media?
- Is social media a platform that you or your friend frequently use?
- Do you think you or your friends are engaging too much on social media?
- Do you think some people put themselves in a vulnerable position while posting social media content?
- What would you recommend to people who might get exposed to dodgy situations just by interacting online regularly?

Describe a person you follow on social media

You should say

- Who he or she is
- How do you know him/her
- What she/he posts on social media
- And explain why you follow him/her on social media



Talk about your favourite social media site or application You should say:

- when you first used it
- Why you use it
- How often you use it
- And if you recommend it to others



Describe a positive impact of social media on society.

You should say:

- What specific positive impact it has.
- How it benefits individuals or communities.
- Any real-life examples that illustrate this impact, and
- Your personal views on the significance of this impact.



- What can people do on social media?
- Do older people spend much time on social media?
- Are non-social media like television and newspapers still useful?
- What do you think about making friends on social networking sites?
- Do you think older adults and young people can share the same interest?
- Do you think older people and younger people will use the same kind of social media software?
- What kind of information do you usually share on your social media profiles?
- Do you think social media has more positive or negative effects on society?
- How do you deal with negative experiences or comments on social media?

- At what age are children generally allowed to use social media in your country?
- Do you think people will use social media more or less in the future?
- Why do you think bullying on the internet has become so widespread?
- Should social media platforms be regulated by the government? Why or why not?
- How has social media affected the way people communicate with each other?
- Some argue that social media has led to a decline in face-to-face communication. What are your views on this?
- In what ways can social media be used to promote positive social change?
- What are the potential drawbacks of social media in terms of mental health?

