

# Topic: Communication

## Subtopic: Social media

We are getting better at:

- sharing our opinions about social media
- using a range of vocabulary to describe social and digital media
- apply our reading strategies for multiple matching tasks
- structuring for/against paragraphs for our essays

## Do now:

1. List all the social media apps you use.
2. Rank your platforms from favourite to least favourite.
3. Compare your ideas with a partner. Explain your choices.

*My favourite app is \_\_\_\_\_, because...*

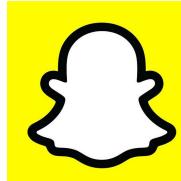
*I prefer \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, because...*

*One thing I love about \_\_\_\_\_ is ...*

*Which do you prefer: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?*



TikTok



# Vocabulary Pre-test

Let's see which vocabulary you already know for talking about social/digital media.

**Rate your understanding of this vocabulary related to social media. Tick (✓) the appropriate box for each word.**

Word	I don't know this word	I recognise this word but don't know the meaning	I have a basic understanding of this word	I understand the word and could teach it to others
influencer				
go viral				
hashtag				
to trend / trending				

[LINK to doc](#)

## **Look at your partner's vocabulary list.**

- If they know a word that you don't know, ask them to teach you.
- If you feel that you understand this word better now, change the ranking for this word in your own vocabulary check.

## **Look up the meaning of 5 words you don't know.**

- Record the meaning and definition in your books

- Do the vocabulary matching task.
- Highest score gets a REWARD POINT



# 10 minutes: Let's chat

Spin the wheel, get a question

Try to speak for at least 30 seconds on the topic

Remember:

**Question - Answer - Add - Add**



# Remember to review the new vocabulary regularly.

- Have your vocabulary document available for the next 2 lessons, you may want to refer to it.
- If you arrive to the lesson early, practice the new vocabulary using the spin the wheel task.

## Moving on...

Write on your whiteboard:

2 good things about **social media**

2 bad thing about **social media**



Let's hear from some teenagers about the topic... [LINK to doc](#)

Read (2 minutes) - do you agree with any of the teenagers?

**Four teenagers share their views on whether social media and digital communication are good or bad.**

**Freya**

I believe social media plays an important role in helping people maintain relationships, especially when distance is an issue. I use messaging apps and social networking platforms to stay in contact with relatives and friends who live abroad. Regular updates, voice messages and video calls mean that we can share important moments, even if we are not physically together. Without these digital communication tools, it would be much harder to keep these relationships active. That said, I am aware of the risks of overuse - not that I do much about that...

# Let's hear from some teenagers about the topic...

Read (1 minute) - did any of the teenagers mention your ideas?

## Freya

I believe social media plays an important role in helping people maintain relationships, especially when distance is an issue. I use messaging apps and social networking platforms to stay in contact with relatives and friends who live abroad. Regular updates, voice messages and video calls mean that we can share important moments, even if we are not physically together. Without these digital communication tools, it would be much harder to keep these relationships active. That said, I am aware of the risks of overuse - not that I do much about that...

# Task (2 minutes) - map the text. Add notes next to each paragraph

**Four teenagers share their views on whether social media and digital communication are good or bad.**

**Freya**

I believe social media plays an important role in helping people maintain relationships, especially when distance is an issue. I use messaging apps and social networking platforms to stay in contact with relatives and friends who live abroad. Regular updates, voice messages and video calls mean that we can share important moments, even if we are not physically together. Without these digital communication tools, it would be much harder to keep these relationships active. That said, I am aware of the risks of overuse - not that I do much about that...

stay in touch with friends/relatives

Overusing social media

# Task (2 minutes) - Underline keywords in each question

## **Who thinks...?**

Write **the student name** next to each statement.

1. ...that online communication can weaken the quality of relationships?
2. ...that social media helps people remain connected despite physical location?
3. ...that social media content can cause emotional challenges?
4. ...that alerts can prevent students from focusing on schoolwork?
5. ...that social media can be helpful for learning and sharing knowledge?
6. ...that the effects of social media depend on how people interact with it?
7. ...that limiting usage can improve the experience of social media?
8. ...that online approval has changed how people communicate?

# Talk (1 minute) - Which paragraph might the information appear in?

**Student A:** weaken relationships? Well that's not Freya. She thinks online communication is good for staying in touch

**Student B:** Hmm, true. William mentions something about...

## **Who thinks...?**

Write **the student name** next to each statement.

1. ...that online communication can weaken the quality of relationships?
2. ...that social media helps people remain connected despite physical location?
3. ...that social media content can cause emotional challenges?
4. ...that alerts can prevent students from focusing on schoolwork?
5. ...that social media can be helpful for learning and sharing knowledge?
6. ...that the effects of social media depend on how people interact with it?
7. ...that limiting usage can improve the experience of social media?
8. ...that online approval has changed how people communicate?

# Task (8 minutes) - Answer the questions. Don't forget:

- Highlight where you found the paraphrasing in the text
- Add the question number in the margin. This will help you to review your answers quickly

## **William**

1 Personally, I feel that digital communication has started to replace real conversations too much. Even when people meet in person, many still spend time checking their phones or replying to messages. **This habit reduces meaningful interaction and makes communication feel less personal.** I also think that relying on likes and comments for recognition has changed the way people communicate with each other. For me, face-to-face conversations are more honest and help build stronger friendships.

## **Who thinks...?**

Write **the student name** next to each statement.

1. ...that online communication can **weaken the quality of relationships?** **William**

# Who thinks...?

Write **the student name** next to each statement.

1. ...that online communication can weaken the quality of relationships? William
2. ...that social media helps people remain connected despite physical location? Freya
3. ...that social media content can cause emotional challenges? Jessie
4. ...that alerts can prevent students from focusing on schoolwork? Jessie
5. ...that social media can be helpful for learning and sharing knowledge? Tim
6. ...that the effects of social media depend on how people interact with it? Tim
7. ...that limiting usage can improve the experience of social media? Tim
8. ...that online approval has changed how people communicate? William

[to teacher: highlight paraphrasing in the text together with the learners when doing feedback. Do it directly into the Google doc. Next slide is just for reference]

# Did you find the paraphrased information?

## Who thinks...?

Write **the student name** next to each statement.

1. ...that online communication can weaken the quality of relationships? **I reduces meaningful interaction and makes communication feel less personal**
2. ...that social media helps people remain connected despite physical location? **maintain relationships, especially when distance is an issue**
3. ...that social media content can cause emotional challenges? **leads to feelings of pressure and anxiety**
4. ...that alerts can prevent students from focusing on schoolwork? **Notifications... interrupt my concentration**
5. ...that social media can be helpful for learning and sharing knowledge? **Share tips, tutorials, study advice...**
6. ...that the effects of social media depend on how people interact with it? **It's down to how responsibly it's used**
7. ...that limiting usage can improve the experience of social media? **Setting daily limits**
8. ...that online approval has changed how people communicate? **relying on likes and comments for recognition**

# Do Now

Do you agree with the statements below? Share your thoughts with a partner.

- Social media is a great learning tool
- Teens should be set a daily screen time limit by their caregivers
- Social media content can cause emotional challenges
- Online communication can weaken relationships

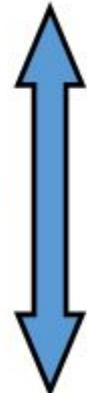
**I strongly agree**

**I agree**

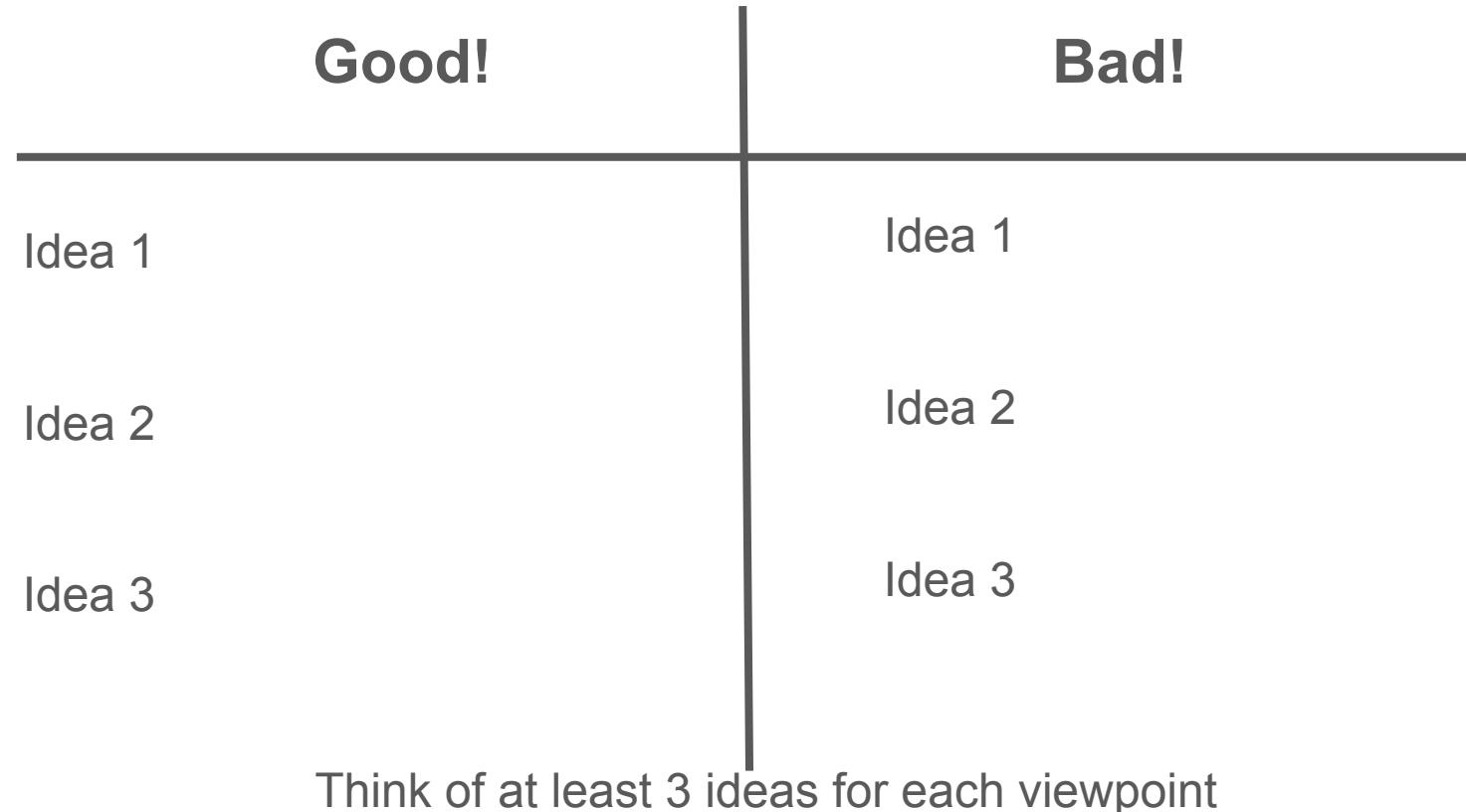
**I agree to an extent**

**I disagree**

**I disagree entirely**



What are your views? Social media and digital communication - good or bad for young people? Let's build on our initial thoughts, taking ideas from the text.



# What are your own views? Social media and digital communication - good or bad for young people?

Good!	Bad!
Idea 1 Example	Idea 1 Example
Idea 2 Example	Idea 2 Example
Idea 3 Example	Idea 3 Example

Remember:  
vocab bank!

Provide clear examples to support your ideas

Make your notes for each column into a paragraph. Use the writing frame to help you:

One reason why social media is bad for young people is \_\_\_\_\_. For example,

\_\_\_\_\_. Furthermore, \_\_\_\_\_.

For instance \_\_\_\_\_. Another

reason why social media can be bad is \_\_\_\_\_.

On the other hand, there are some positive aspects to teens using social media. \_\_\_\_\_

Remember to use your previous resource on both-sides arguments to help with linking language...



## Should Students Stay in Boarding Schools?

Many people believe that boarding schools give students the best start in life, while others argue that they can be stressful and isolating. It's a topic that divides opinion — but is sending students away from home really the best choice?

On one hand, boarding schools can help students become more independent and responsible. For example, students must organise their own time, complete homework without being reminded, and make decisions about daily routines. As a result, they learn self-discipline and problem-solving skills that prepare them for adulthood. Furthermore, because they spend so much time in a learning environment, their academic focus often improves. This combination of independence and motivation means that many boarding school students leave better equipped for future challenges.

[\(Click here to review\)](#)

### Useful linking language

Purpose	Examples from the Model Essay	Extra Useful Alternatives
<i>Introducing / Summarising Two Sides</i>	Many people believe that... while others argue that...	Some people think... whereas others believe...
<i>Giving Examples</i>	For example,	For instance, Such as, To illustrate,
<i>Cause and Effect</i>	As a result, Because... Which can lead to... Consequently, Means that...	Therefore, This shows that..., Thus,
<i>Adding / Extending an Idea</i>	Furthermore, In addition,	Moreover, Also, What's more,

# Peer correction:

Has your partner...

- made at least two points in each paragraph?
- supported their points with examples?
- used appropriate linking language?
- used topic specific vocabulary?



We are getting better at:

- **sharing our opinions** about social media
- **using a range of vocabulary** to describe social and digital media
- **apply our reading strategies** for multiple matching tasks
- **structuring for/against paragraphs** for our essays

We did this by...

I can practice more by...

# Homework:

- **Complete the ‘Grammar Snack’ activities on relative clauses.** Note: this should be a review, as we covered this during the topic on art.
- Identify any relative clauses you used in your essay paragraphs.
- If you didn’t include any, try to add at least two relative clauses to your essays

## More practice (optional)

You recently downloaded a new social media app. Your friend wants to hear all about it. Write your friend an email. In your email you should:

- Explain what the app is and why you downloaded it
- Describe some of the app features
- Say what you like/dislike the most about the app
- Advise your friend on whether it's worth them downloading the app too.

Write between 120-160 words.

Remember:  
vocab bank!

# Prepare (optional)

Next lesson we will talk about face-to-face vs digital communication. You may want to plan some ideas on the pros and cons of each.

	Pros	Cons
Face-to-face communication		
Digital communication		