

Let's talk about... Social Media

Exercise 1: Match the vocabulary to the definitions below to help with your conversation.

1. tweet **n/v**
2. regret **v/n**
3. blog **n**
4. waste **v/n**
5. disadvantages **n**
6. abroad **adv**
7. meme **n**
8. emoticon/emoji **n**
9. feature **n**

- A. in a foreign country/not in your country.
- B. want to change something you did in the past.
- C. negative factors/bad things.
- D. post something on twitter.
- E. discussion/informational website (often with diary-style content).
- F. image or piece of text (often funny and spread by internet users).
- G. a picture representing a facial expression (example: a smile).
- H. use your time in a way that is useless/not productive.
- I. component/something added as a special attraction.



Exercise 2: Can you and your partner name these emoticons/emojis?



1.

2.

3.

4.

Exercise 3: Match the two halves of the collocations and discuss what they mean in pairs.

1. instant
2. go
3. trending
4. update your
5. write a
6. keep
7. tag someone
8. social media
9. face-to-face
10. news

- A. messaging
- B. on twitter
- C. in a photo/post
- D. viral
- E. status
- F. blog
- G. influencers
- H. in touch
- I. feed
- J. communication

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Exercise 4: Cut up the conversation cards below or display the page on your device.

Student A:

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1. How long do you spend on the internet every day?
2. Which social media sites/apps do you use? What do you do on them? Why do you like them?
3. Which Facebook **features** do you use? Instant messaging? **News feed**? Photo posting?
4. Do you mind if people **tag** you in photographs?
5. Do you know what has been **trending on twitter** recently?
6. What are the **advantages** of social media?



Student B:

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1. Do you use social media to **keep in touch** with friends or family who are **abroad**?
2. What are the **disadvantages** of social media? Do you think it would be better to have more **face-to-face communication**?
3. Do you use **emoticons/emojis** when you post, comment on posts or use chat? Which ones are your favourites? Do you think they are useful?
4. Have you ever **regretted** posting something on Twitter or Facebook?
5. Do you remember anything that **went viral** on the internet this year?



Student A:

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1. How long do you spend on the internet every day?
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5. Do you know what has been **trending on twitter** recently?
6. What are the **advantages** of social media?




Student B:

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1. Do you use social media to **keep in touch** with friends or family who are **abroad**?
2. What are the **disadvantages** of social media? Do you think it would be better to have more **face-to-face communication**?
3. Do you use **emoticons/emojis** when you post, comment on posts or use chat? Which ones are your favourites? Do you think they are useful?
4. Have you ever **regretted** posting something on Twitter or Facebook?
5. Do you remember anything that **went viral** on the internet this year?



Exercise 5: Cut up the cards below or display the page on your device.



emoticon/emoji n	regret v/n	tweet n/v	wink n/v	abroad adj
instant messaging n	blog n	meme n	feature n	face-to-face adj
trending adj/exp	waste v/n	Snapchat n	Twitter n	Facebook n
go viral exp	keep in touch exp	influencers n	YouTube n	frown v/n
tag v	Instagram n	disadvantage n	news feed n	thumbs up n

Teacher's Notes

Lesson: Let's talk about...Social Media

Level: A2+ - B1.

Time: 45 mins

Preparation:

- If teaching online, see the notes below for adapting to online lessons.
- Cut up the cards on page 2. One set for every group of 2-4 students.
- Print handouts.

Teaching Method:

Try our other 'Let's talk about ...' lessons for more practice!

Step 1:

- Draw a spider diagram on the board with 'social media' in the centre.
- Elicit related vocabulary from the students and write it on the board.

Step 2:

- Elicit further vocabulary by asking the following question:

Can you name some social media websites or applications?

(Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Wikipedia, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Snapchat, TikTok ...)

Step 3:

- Students complete the first exercise individually, matching the vocabulary to the definitions.
- Students compare their answers with a partner.
- Go through the answers, giving further examples for difficult vocabulary.
- Ask the students to tell you what the emoticons on the bottom of the page are doing. Elicit **thumbs up**.

Step 4:

- Students ask and answer the questions in pairs or small groups.
- Encourage them to repeat the new vocabulary in their responses.

Step 5:

- Give students 5 minutes to study the vocabulary before they begin the game.

Classroom-based lessons:

- Put students into small groups and give a set of cards from exercise 4 to each group.
- Students take turns in picking a card and describing the word they see. Students must not show the other students their card.
- They can (a) give a definition/synonym, (b) give an antonym, or (c) make a sentence omitting the word. The other students should guess the word/phrase.
- Demonstrate the activity before the students begin.

Online lessons:

- Display page 3 on your device.
- Students take turns to secretly choose a word/phrase from the page and describe it to the class.
- If you want to divide your class into smaller groups, you can ask them to take a screenshot.
- Continue as above.

Answers & Pronunciation

Lesson: Let's talk about...Social Media

Level: A2+ - B1.

Time: 45 mins

Exercise 1:

1. D
2. B
3. E
4. H
5. C
6. A
7. F
8. G
9. I

Exercise 2:

1. frown / sad face / crying
2. thumbs up
3. smile / smiley face
4. wink

Exercise 3:

1. instant messaging (A)
2. go viral (D)
3. trending on twitter (B)
4. update your status (E)
5. write a blog (F)
6. keep in touch (H)
7. tag someone in a photo/post (C)
8. social media influencers (G)
9. face-to-face communication (J)
5. news feed (I)

Vocabulary:	British:	American:
abroad	ə'brɔ:d	ə'brɔd
advantages	əd'vɑ:ntɪdʒɪz	əd'væntɪdʒɪz
blog	blɒg	blɒg
disadvantages	,dɪsəd'vɑ:ntɪdʒɪz	,dɪsəd'væntɪdʒɪz
emoticon	ɪ'məʊtɪ,kən	ə'moʊtə,kən
face-to-face	feɪs tu: feɪs	feɪs tu feɪs
Facebook	'feɪs,bʊk	'feɪs,bʊk
feature	'fi:tʃə	'fɪtʃər
frown	fraʊn	fraʊn
go viral	gəʊ 'vaɪərl	goʊ 'vaɪərl
instant messaging	'ɪnstənt 'mesɪdʒɪŋ	'ɪnstənt 'mesɪdʒɪŋ
keep in touch	kɪ:p ɪn tʌtʃ	kip ɪn tʌtʃ
meme	mi:m	mi:m
news feed	nju:z fi:d	nju:z fid
regret	rɪ'grɛt	rə'grɛt
Snapchat	snæp tʃæt	snæp tʃæt
tag	tæg	tæg
thumbs up	θʌmz ʌp	θʌmz ʌp
trending	'trɛndɪŋ	'trɛndɪŋ
tweet	twi:t	twit
Twitter	'twɪtə	'twɪtər
waste	weɪst	weɪst
wink	wɪŋk	wɪŋk
YouTube	ju: tju:b	ju tub

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