**Using AI:**

Summary of Communication App Usage and Experiences

Most Commonly Used Communication Apps

• Gmail: Frequently used for school-related communication, receiving notifications, and tracking assignments.

• iMessage: Popular for casual conversations and school-related communication with peers.

• Discord: Used for casual conversations, group projects, and club activities.

• Instagram & Snapchat: Primarily for social interactions and staying connected with friends.

• TikTok: Mainly for entertainment, with some social interactions.

Reasons for App Choices

• Convenience & Popularity: Apps like iMessage and Gmail are widely used among peers and teachers.

• Functionality: Discord and Gmail are preferred for organizing group projects and academic communication.

• Speed & Reliability: Instant messaging apps like iMessage and Snapchat are valued for quick responses.

Common Uses of Apps

1. Casual Conversations: Primarily through iMessage, Snapchat, Instagram, and Discord.

2. School-Related Communication: Gmail and Discord are the primary tools for contacting teachers and organizing group work.

3. Information Sharing: Discord and Instagram are used for sharing school-related or personal interest information.

Common Problems Encountered

• Delayed Responses: Especially on iMessage and Snapchat.

• Disappearing Chats: Snapchat’s auto-delete feature is inconvenient for ongoing conversations.

• App-Specific Issues: Problems like slow message delivery, AI response issues, and challenges finding peers.

• Inefficient Emailing: Some find emailing back and forth for group projects cumbersome.

Peer Communication for School Purposes

• Successes: Most participants successfully communicated with peers via iMessage, Discord, and Gmail.

• Challenges:

• Difficulty in initially finding peer contact information.

• Emailing felt inefficient for quick academic discussions.

• Desire for a faster, more efficient academic communication platform.

Feedback on Proposed Communication App – ConnectCCA

• Purpose: Aims to facilitate safe, easy communication among students for academic and social purposes, with potential for inter-school connectivity.

Key Points from Interviews:

1. Convenience & Accessibility: Students prefer commonly used, accessible apps.

2. Mixed Feelings on Censorship:

• Support for filtering inappropriate content, especially for younger users.

• Concern over unnecessary censorship for older users.

3. Teacher Monitoring Concerns:

• Discomfort with teachers monitoring chats due to privacy concerns.

• Conditional acceptance if monitoring focuses only on addressing inappropriate behavior.

4. Effectiveness of a School App:

• Potential Benefits: Easier communication for those not using popular social media platforms.

• Skepticism: Some feel existing apps already meet their needs.

• Regulation Concerns: Overregulation could deter usage.

5. Improving Student-Teacher Communication:

• An app could enhance relationships by sharing more about teachers’ interests and backgrounds.

• Peer opinions heavily influence perceptions of teachers.

Survey Summary

• Google Classroom: Considered unhelpful for student-to-student communication by most.

• Communication Challenges:

• 70% of students have struggled to contact peers for academic purposes.

• Students contact peers with varying frequency (from rarely to 4+ times per week).

• Preferred Apps: iMessage and Gmail are the most commonly used for contacting students.

• Interest in New App:

• 60% would download a personalized communication app, with an additional 10% open to it under certain conditions (security, popularity).

• Reasons for use include easier group work and assignment help.

• Censorship Opinions:

• Most are fine with school-safe censorship but prefer moderation only for inappropriate content.

• Skepticism About Necessity:

• Some feel current platforms suffice or prefer a broader, more popular app.

Overall Takeaways

• Need for Improved Academic Communication: Many students struggle with current methods for contacting peers, especially for academic work.

• App Features Desired: Efficiency, accessibility, privacy, and a balance between necessary censorship and user freedom.

• Mixed Necessity for New App: While some see value in a school-specific platform, others feel existing apps meet their needs.