

Have you ever wondered, what is like, to be a kid and
don't spend time playing with your friends at the park on
your free time? Many kids nowadays spend their entire
weekend in front of a screen playing videogames or looking
at social media. Activities like going to the park or doing
sport with friends are being erased from the day-to-day
lives of many young people and instead their screen time
is increasing. This is what phone and social media addiction causes.

Michelle Goldberg talks about this topic in her article "The
Internet is a Wasteland, ~~So~~ Give Kids Better places to Go".
She explains the situation of many US citizens and gives her
own ^{opinion} ~~opinion~~. Throughout the article we see that the writer
uses specific words and stylistic devices that have an influence
on the readers opinion about the topic. ~~and~~

First of all, one can notice the use of words with a negative
connotation as talking about social media and, in general phone
addiction. Words like depression (l.10), suicidal thoughts (l.10)
& psychological damage (l.25) or predatory (l.32), influence the reader
to create a bad image when thinking about this topic, and
to emphasize in the damage that this things do. This technique
is usually used by politicians when they talk about the rival
parties to create a bad image of them in the minds of their listeners.

The writer also uses many exaggerated words and hyperboles to emphasize in the size of the problem. For example in lines 9 to 20 ("the collapse of young people's mental health"), exaggerating the problems young people can have due to social media. Also in lines 29 to 30 when talking about the "hyperdrive" into which unrealistic beauty standards and popularity contests can lead.

Throughout the article we find contrasts as well. For example the use of two opposed words like underprotected (l.42) and over-protected (l.43) or ^{when} ~~as~~ she talks about what the government could do against it (l.36: "small but potentially significant steps"). Goldberg uses this stylistic device to ~~create~~ create two different totally different scenarios and exaggerate in some cases.

Another point is the constant use of the first person. In the majority of the article the writer uses the first person of the singular. ~~She~~ We see that in many lines like for example line 48 (~~she~~ "I kept thinking"), ~~line 24~~ line 24 ("I suspect") or line 50 ("I would"). In many of this cases she uses it to give her opinion about a topic. However, we see that the author changes to the plural "we" in the final sentences as she talks to the reader in order to take action together against the issue. In this case, she uses the plural to include the reader to the matter and make him also responsible to do something against it.

Finally, we see ~~in~~ some enumerations in the article, (ll.64-65: "...opportunities for children and teens to play, roam and engage in other...") (l.10: "depression, suicidal thoughts and self-harm"). These are used to create a sequence of things ~~which~~ she is talking about.