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Class: A3.5

Written Assignment 1: Social Media

In this assignment, you will write an essay that discusses two views about social media and assesses their significance. To complete this assignment, you can think of the readings and language points you have learnt in unit 1.

A. Writing Structure:

- Introduction (50 words)
 - general to specific
 - a paraphrased question along with your thesis statement
- Body Paragraph
 - Paragraph 1: Discuss the first view
 - Provide details or evidence, examples or implications,..etc
 - Paragraph 2: Discuss the second view
 - Provide details or evidence, examples or implications,..etc
 - Paragraph 3: Evaluate its significance
 - Provide comparison/contrast along with justification
- Conclusion
 - restate your thesis statement
 - offer a final thought or implication

B. Choose a topic and conduct brainstorming

(1) Some people believe that social media has improved communication and strengthened relationships. Others think it has weakened face-to-face interaction and led to isolation.

Discuss both views and assess their significance.

(2) Many argue that social media platforms empower individuals to express themselves freely. Others believe they encourage superficiality and discourage meaningful dialogue.

Discuss both views and assess their significance.

This section is for your brainstorm:

- Reduces face-to-face interaction and real-life communication
- Can cause anti-social behavior and weaker relationships
- People feel disconnected without real-time conversations
- Adolescents often prefer texting, losing confidence in speaking in person
- On the positive side, it allows sharing moments, staying in touch, and convenient video calls with family and friends
- Social media aids long-distance relationships
- People may derive comfort from quick messages
- Individuals need to differentiate real connection from convenience.
- Social media is beneficial when used responsibly, harmful when overused.

C. Assign part(s) for your group members. Stick the chunk writing(s) in the correct order.

1. Nguon Maneth is responsible for the introduction.
2. Sin Ponyong is responsible for the first body paragraph.
3. Yon Sokuntheavy is responsible for the second body paragraph.
4. Ham Sreynith is responsible for the last body paragraph.
5. Vorn Beauvatey is responsible for the conclusion.

D. Write your revised paragraph below. Check (E) to see what your essay must include.

In the digital age, social media has emerged as an influential tool for communication alongside other powerful tools. While some believe that it has brought a closer gap between people and improved the way we interact, others argue that it has weakened face-to-face communication less frequent and increased isolation among individuals. These opposing views affect our perception of social relationships and challenge how we comprehend the true impact of digital interaction. This essay will explore both views and assess which influence has a greater effect on people's social connections today.

With the advancement of technology, people can make communication easier through social media, that ties them together. **Despite our duties, we live in a hyper-connected society that allows us to share our moments with family and acquaintances in just a second.** Moreover, we can stay in touch and even video call our loved ones anywhere, at any time. In addition, we don't have to meet them in person, and it's very convenient. In short, social media has changed the way we interact, keeping us connected and making our relationships stronger.

On the other hand, social media has weakened face-to-face interaction and led to isolation. Basically, the amount of time people spend on social media can reduce spending time engaging face to face interaction and lead to more anti-social tendencies, which affects their ability to build strong relationships. Without deep, real-time conversations, many individuals begin to feel disconnected and isolated from those around them. Especially, adolescents who are on their phones most of the time often prefer texting or using social media to interact with others. As a result, they lose confidence in their communication skills and feel overwhelmed and anxious when talking face-to-face instead of texting.

Evaluating both viewpoints, the influence of social media on communication is certainly substantial. It improves interactions over long distances by offering quick and easy methods to remain in touch. **Nevertheless, although it aids in sustaining relationships, it may also cause individuals to find solace in brief online interactions instead of engaging in meaningful in-person interactions.** To understand its true impact, individuals must differentiate between communication that builds real emotional closeness and communication that only provides temporary convenience. Thus, social media is beneficial when used responsibly, but it can also weaken relationships when overused.

To sum up, while using social media offered significant advantages that made people's lives easier, it may have detriment effects, such as social isolation. Thus, social media has both positive and negative effects. However, completely avoiding social media is challenging, especially for those who use it every day. Therefore, the best approach is to spend less time online and interact more with people outside, which can strengthen the bond and enhance empathy.

E. Criteria

	YES	NO
1.I have used at least 8 vocabulary words from unit 1. All the words are <i>UNDERLINED</i> in the writing. Here they are:		
2.I have made at least 2 concessions or contrastive structure. The sentences are BOLD .		
3.The essay contains 5 paragraphs (an introduction-three body paragraphs-a conclusion)		
4.Each paragraph centers around one main idea and/or fulfill all the required purposes.		
5.The essay is free from mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.		

F. Deadline

- (1) Submit A-F in paper-based format in **Week 5, 17th-21st November 2025**.
- (2) Receive the feedback
- (3) Revise, save, and upload onto your E-portfolio.