

English - Summer 2 Week 5 - Home Learning

Session 5

Today, you will be completing a reading comprehension titled 'Too Young for Social Media'.

As always, read the text carefully and answer the comprehension questions to the best of your ability.

How to share your work:

- Write your answers into your exercise book and take a picture of your work.
- Type your answers directly into the boxes on this page or use Google Docs to edit.

Once you've completed the work, submit your work to Google Classroom following this set of instructions:

1. Go to classroom.google.com
2. Click the class - Classwork - the assignment.
3. To attach an item, click 'Add or create' and select 'Google Drive', 'Link' or 'File' depending on what type of file you have created.
4. The status of your work will change to 'Turned in'.

Text: Too young for social media?

Whether it's having a chat, sending photos or sharing web pages, it seems that everyone uses social media these days. It really has changed the way people stay in touch. It's so easy to keep up with your friends and you don't even have to go and meet them face to face. But how young is too young to be active on social media? Not surprisingly, there are strong voices on both sides of the debate.

Do you use social media? If so, there's a good chance that you're not supposed to. At the moment, the best-known social media platforms have an age limit – typically thirteen – beneath which children are not supposed to use them. The question is, are these limits really necessary? And what use are they anyway if they are not properly supervised?

Humans are social animals. Most people need to feel connected to others, which is why mankind developed settlements, cities and civilisations. Not only did this mean that we could share the work and help to protect each other, but it also satisfied our need to socialise and develop a sense of community. For most of our history, that meant we had to live near to others.

Mobile and internet technology changed all that. Part of your family moved to Australia? Not to worry, you can see and talk to them on web-based chat apps. Too wet or cold to play out? No problem, you can still talk to your friends over the internet and even enjoy computer games together. You barely need to leave the house to have a full and busy social life.

But maybe that is part of the problem – there's no need to go out anymore to be social. If you really wanted, you could pretty much stay in your bedroom 24/7, provided that you didn't have to be somewhere else, such as school. What effect would that have on your health? The fact that food is cheaper and more easily available than ever before is already creating a generation of heavier children. A lack of exercise – even walking – can only reduce fitness still further.

On the other hand, there are advantages to tech-based communication, especially for parents. If your children are upstairs in their bedrooms, you know where they are. If they're also happily chatting with their friends, so much the better: social skills are so important. Anyway, what's the alternative? Walking the streets; hanging about on street corners; meeting up with goodness knows who? At least, at home, they're safe.

Or are they? Social media has created a whole new problem: cyber-bullying. Of course, there have always been bullies, but until recently they couldn't follow you right into your home. Nowadays, cruel youngsters are making life a misery for others over social media, driving their victims into despair. To make it worse, there's nowhere to hide. As long as you log on, your tormentors can get to you.

One thing's for sure – you can't uninvent technology, so we have to adapt and find ways to live with it. Whether that means enforcing an age-limit for using social media, or improving the way that abuse can be reported is not clear. As a society, however, we might need to decide one way or another very soon.

Questions: Too young for social media?

Q1. Look at the paragraph beginning: *Whether it is having a chat...* **Find and copy one** word which is closest in meaning to discussion.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q2. *Humans are **social** animals.*

Which of the below most closely matches the meaning of the word social? Tick **one**.

- intelligent
- advanced
- needing companionship
- hostile

Q3. Read the paragraph beginning: *Or are they...*

Find and copy one word or **group of** words that means a people who inflict suffering.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q4. Write down **two** reasons why humans created settlements and civilisation.

1. Click or tap here to enter text.

2. Click or tap here to enter text.

Q5. What impact might the use of social media have on health?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q6. Using information from the whole text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
The article is against enforcing an age-limit on social media.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are a range of advantages and disadvantages to children's use of social media.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The use of social media may prove harmful to long-term health.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The use of social media has reduced the amount of bullying that young people are exposed to.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q7. Do you think the writer is biased in this text? Explain your answer fully.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q8. What evidence is there in the text that suggests we may never have to say goodbye to our loved ones again?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q9. Do you think that this article will convince parents to ban/limit their children from using social media? Use the text to support your answer.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q10. The author uses phrases such as "On the other hand" and "Or are they?" What impact does this have on the text?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q11. ...*meeting up with goodness knows who*? What impression does this give you about what children might get up to without social media?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Q12. In the text there are questions from the author. Some of these are answered in the text whereas others are not. Why do you think this is?

Click or tap here to enter text.