

Dyrk sproget – en kreativ sprogkonkurrence for gymnasieelever



Det Nationale
Center for
Fremmedsprog

Engelsk – underemne 2 – Social media

We may have forgotten the times before social media. If you are young today, it is almost unimaginable to think of a world and a life without mobile phones, text messages, instant communication, photo documentation and communication. Social media, smart phones, fast wi-fi connections and computer technology give us extreme possibilities to stay in touch and to live global lives. We are never alone - or are we? There is a dark side to social media and for some young people this can cause isolation and unhappiness.

TEXTS

The articles in the links below describe some of the problems of social media. Instead of working with all texts together in class, you can divide the students into groups working with different texts.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/feb/05/youth-unhappiness-uk-doubles-in-past-10-years>

The topic of the article is the rising anxiety among young people

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/29/technology/hate-on-social-media.html?module=inline>

Instagram facebook and other social media are also used to spread all sorts of hate and discrimination.

<https://www.newyorker.com/books/under-review/how-social-media-shapes-our-identity>

The article debates and questions how our identity and our memories are shaped by images posted on social media. Can we rely on our memories?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/02/opinion/children-internet-privacy.html?searchResultPosition=8>

The article presents the word "sharenting" –defined as "when parents post pictures and details about their children on social media without their consent". It consists of a number of short interviews with young people.

General questions:

Find information about the newspaper / magazine. How reliable are they? Who are their readers?

Make a short summary of the main points of the article.

Discuss why the papers find it interesting to focus on the negative sides of social media and the digital world?

The texts are either British or American. How can you tell the difference between the two languages?

	BRITISH ENGLISH	AMERICAN ENGLISH
VOCABULARY		
GRAMMAR		
SPELLING		

TASK

Find out which are the most popular social media in Denmark and compare with other countries. Which apps do you use the most?

Work in groups with the apps below and find out how people use them. Ask your teachers, your friends, family etc.

FACEBOOK

Ask different people if you can see their facebook page. Examine the adds that pop up on their page and compare. Why are they different?

MESSENGER

Why is messenger so popular?

TWITTER

Most young people probably do not use Twitter, however this SoMe is very popular among for instance politicians. Donald Trump looooves to tweet. You may look up some of his controversial tweets, e.g. the one where he cancelled his visit to Denmark

INSTAGRAM

How do people use instagram? How is it different from for instance facebook? Who uses instagram and who do they follow?

SNAPCHAT

How do you use snapchat?

PREPARING YOUR VIDEO

Consider how social media play a role in your lives and how social media can be used in creating international and global contacts and co-operation.

In your video you might include your use of social media and perhaps a discussion of different uses of social media in which you invite you receivers to relate to your digital habits.