

The first Examination of English

Read the text carefully, then do the following activities:

Social media "destroying how society works"



A former Facebook executive has said social media is doing great harm to society around the world. The executive is a man called Chamath Palihapitiya. He joined Facebook in 2007 and became a vice president. He was responsible for increasing the number of users Facebook had. Mr Palihapitiya said he feels very guilty about getting more people to use social networks. He said the networks are destroying society because they are changing people's behavior. Twenty years ago, people talked to each other face to face. Today, people message each other and do not talk. People also really care about what other people think of them. They post photos and wait to see how many people like the photo. They get very sad if people do not like the photo.

Mr Palihapitiya said people should take a long break from social media so they can experience real life. He wants people to value each other instead of valuing online "hearts, likes, and thumbs-up". Palihapitiya also points out how fake news is affecting how we see the world. It is becoming easier for large websites to spread lies. It is also becoming easier to hurt other people online. Anyone can hide behind a fake user name and post lies about other people. Palihapitiya said this was a global problem. He is worried about social media so much that he has banned his children from using it. However, he did state that Facebook was a good company. He said: "Of course, it's not all bad. Facebook overwhelmingly does good in the world."

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1/Reading & interpreting:

Ex1/Is the text above: a-A note of apology. b-An extract from a book. c-A web article.

Ex2/Say if these statements are (True) or (False) according to the text:

- a-An ex-facebook boss said social media is damaging society.
- b-People message each other today instead of talking face to face.
- c-The ex-boss suggested that people would benefit from a break from social media.
- d-The ex-boss advised his kids to use social media.

Ex3/Answer these questions according to the text:

- a-Who admitted that social media is doing great harm to society?
- b-When did he start working for facebook?
- c-Why did he feel guilty?
- d-How are social media changing people's behavior?

Ex4/What or who do the underlined words refer to in the text:

a-they(\$1)

b-his(\$2)

c-it(\$2)

Ex5/In which paragraph is it mentioned that untruths are well-spread among the net??

2/Text exploration:

Ex1/Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to:

a-boss(\$1) b-damage(\$1) c-rest(\$2) d-untruths(\$2)

Ex2/Which nouns can be derived from these verbs:

invite - refuse - apply - accept

Ex3/Join the following pairs of sentences using the connectors given:

a-Facebook harms our society/ Twitter harms our society. (both.....and)

b-My father doesn't use Instagram/ my father doesn't use Linked-in. (neither.....nor)

Ex4/Classify these words according to their number of syllables:

Executive - networks - instead - online - banned - company

Ex5/Fill in each gap with only one word from the list:

(websites - addicts - surfing - spend)

A lot of people enjoy.....1..... on the net.They look for interesting2..... and chat with people over the world. However some people.....3..... so many hours on line that they are internet.....4.....

3/Written expression:

Choose only one topic

Topic1/ Internet has made the world like a small village,by sharing global information.Use the given notes to write a short paragraph about advantages & drawbacks of the net:

-Makes research easier-rapid-efficient -precise -lot of uses in many fields -saves time
-People waste their time. -may lose their works & studies -be far from real life
-affect their health badly.

Topic2/ Imagine that you receive this invitaion recently. write a short reply in which you clarify your attitude whether by acceptance or refusal

30th of November,2018

Dear Simon

My family and I would like to invite you to spend the spring holidays in our spring house up the hill. It is a beautiful house surrounded with flowers and trees. I'm sure you'll like it and enjoy yourself with us.

Best regards,Kate

Good luck for all