

7

Ideas and Thoughts

Module 3

Before you read

Argumentative Text

1 Think, Pair, Share

- In pairs, look at the icons and name the applications.
- What do they have in common?



2 a. Read the text and give it a title

Social media has become a huge part of everyday life. Some people see this constant use as an **addiction** to social media, but others **defend** it as a normal part of modern life and communication.

The biggest problem is that using social media makes us less social in real life. We can become **obsessed** with checking **notifications** or messages. This can lead us to ignore the people around us. Often, people **confuse** social media with reality. Having lots of Facebook friends doesn't mean having a connection with those people in real life, and we forget that somebody's 'image' online doesn't always reflect that person's real life. Lots of people only post positive things, so we believe their lives are perfect, and we spend a lot of time trying to live up to those **unrealistic** images.

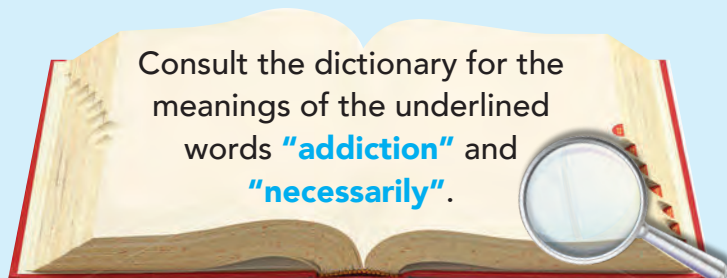
However, social media has opened up many new possibilities, especially to young people. It allows us to stay in touch with friends around the world, see their pictures and hear about their adventures. Social media is also a great way to raise enormous amounts of money for charity.

In my opinion, social media is not **necessarily** a bad thing. Although using technology excessively is unhealthy, using it in the right way is a huge benefit of living in modern times.

Hint

A fact can be proved or disproved, but opinions can differ depending on points of view.

Consult the dictionary for the meanings of the underlined words "**addiction**" and "**necessarily**".





b. Answer the following questions:

1. According to the author, what is the greatest problem with social media?
2. Which paragraph argues for social media and which one is against? How can you tell?
3. What does the writer think about social media?
4. What conclusions do you draw after reading this text?

3 Grammar in context Contrastive Connectors: although / however

e.g.: **Although** using technology excessively is unhealthy, using it in the right way can make life much easier.

Complete the following sentences:

- ...**He has a great experience**....., however, he didn't get the job.
- ...**They went for a walk**....., although it was raining.
- Although she knew she was wrong, ...**she did not apologise**.....
- I didn't like the film, however, ...**I kept watching it to the end**.....

Speaking

You are starting a small business with a group of friends and you want to advertise your **product**.

- Which social media would you choose?
- Discuss what specific **features** of that social media would make it useful.

Writing



4 "Social media can be a blessing or a curse."

a. Fill in the table with ideas for and against social media.

For	Against
• Gets people closer.....	• Causes health problem.....
• Shares knowledge and entertainment.....	• Wastes a lot of time.....
• Makes us communicating interactively.....	• Threatens our security and privacy.....
• Establishes and builds new relations.....	• Spreads hate and prejudice.....

b. In your notebook, develop your notes into an argumentative paragraph explaining whether you are for or against social media.

Checklist:

- Did I express my opinion in the topic sentence (**for or against**)?
- Did I provide reasons and details to support my argument?
- Did I conclude by summarizing my opinion in a way readers will remember?

(2) b. answer the following questions:-

1. Using social media makes us less social in our real life.
2. The second one is against while the third one argues for.
3. He believes that using social media in the right way is a huge benefit of living in modern times.
4. The real benefit of the social is when to balance in using it.



Leaving Messages

Listening

1  Look at the picture and fill in the following table.

Name of the service	...Voice mail.....
When to use it	...To send a voice message.....
Its importance	...To leave a message rather than to wait.....



2  7.1 a. Listen and choose the best answer

The three callers are talking about:

- a. Likes and dislikes
- b. Future plans and arrangements
- c. Mistakes they made in the past

 b. Listen again and match the activities with the callers.

- Kevin (3) 1. Going to the beach
- Suzan (2) 2. Staying at home
- Ali (1) 3. Having a guitar lesson



Speaking

3 Peter calls his friend, but his mother answers the phone. She tells him that his friend is not at home, so Peter leaves a message.

a. Complete the phone conversation between Peter and the mother.

Mother: Hello. This is Mrs. Jones. Who's calling please?

Peter:
This is Peter. May I speak to John please?

Mother: I'm sorry but he's not home, would you like to leave a message?

Peter: Could you please tell himthat our friend Alan had an accident and he is.....
.....now in the hospital?.....

Mother: Oh my God! I can't believe it. I'll tell him as soon as he gets home.

Peter: ...Thank you, Goodbye.....

Mother: Bye.

 Role-Playing: b. Practise the above dialogue with your partner.

4 Grammar in context Present Continuous for Future Arrangements

You can use the present continuous to talk about plans/arrangements for the future.

- Ali **is going** to the beach on Saturday.
- Kevin **is working** on his project on Friday.



Look at the table and write sentences about their future arrangements.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Omar		See the dentist			Meet a friend	Work on the English project	Play football
Fatma	Go to the gymnasium		Visit grandma		Fly to Dubai		

1. Fatma is going to the gym on Sunday.
2. She is visiting her grandma on Tuesday.
3. Omar is seeing the dentist on Monday.
4. He is meeting a friend on Thursday.



5 Ask your partner questions to find out about his/her future plans.



(Practise the dialogue with your partner.)

A: What are you doing tonight?

B: I'm watching T.V. tonight.

A: Are you doing anything tomorrow?

B: I am going to meet my friends.

A: What are your plans for the weekend?

B: I am going to the farm with my family.

Smart Living

Opinion Text

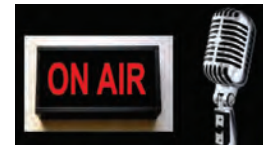
1 Before you read Think, Pair, Share

- Do you think mobile phones are a good invention? Why?
- Are there any places where you think mobile phones should be banned? Why?



2 Read and fill in the table with what each of the following persons thinks of mobile phones.

A radio station recently asked its listeners for their points of view about smartphones. This is what some of them said.



Omar

"I can't live without my smartphone. I think I'm addicted to it. In fact, I post over ten images a day and send at least thirty text messages. I just like to be in touch with all my friends. I wouldn't give it up for all the money in the world, it's **worth a fortune** to me."

Mariam

"I have a mobile, but I try not to use it excessively. I worry about its harmful effects on my health. I read that a lot of studies suggest a possible link between frequent headaches and smartphones. I always keep it away from my children."

Jaber

"I think smartphones, tablets and computers have a very bad effect on people. They seem to be stuck to those devices all the time. I miss the old days when grandparents and grandchildren **gathered** to **recount** their favourite memories and family history."

Jassim

"I think they're really useful. It's great to be able to call or text an employee for an important meeting. The other day my car broke down on the highway and it was great to be able to phone for help. Another time, I got lost on the way to a friend's house and I just looked up the directions on my Maps **application**. That was really **handy**."

Omar	...Smart phones has become a part of our daily life.....
Mariam	...Smart phones have harmful effects on our health.....
Jaber	Smart devices have changed our lives negatively.
Jassim	...Smart devices are very handy in many situations.....

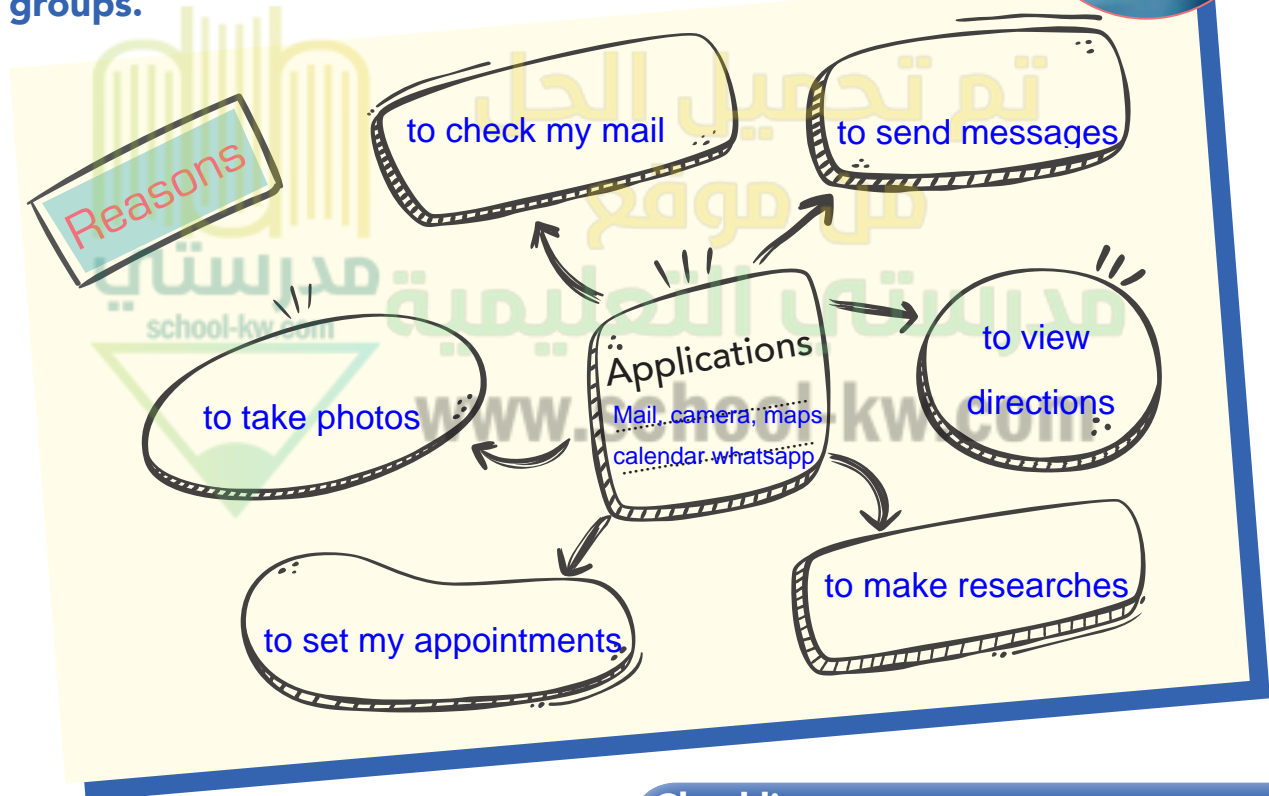
3 Guess who the following people are:

- | | | |
|--------|-------|---------------|
| Omar | (b) | a) a mother |
| Maraim | (a) | b) a student |
| Jaber | (d) | c) a manager |
| Jassim | (c) | d) an old man |



Speaking and Writing

4  **a. What smartphone application should everybody use? Discuss and fill in the spider-gram with reasons to support your choice. Share your ideas with other groups.**



b. In your notebook, develop your notes into a two-paragraph report expressing your opinion about this application by discussing its features and benefits.

Checklist:

- Did I begin my report by stating the topic and my opinion?
- Did I use facts and details to support my opinion?
- Did I conclude by retelling my opinion in different words?



Imagine you work for a mobile phone company. Design a mobile phone of the future. Think about the features it has and what it can do. Draw the phone and mention all the features. Present your idea to the class.