

UNIT 6: TECHNOLOGY AND OUR LIVES

Lesson type: Reading
Source: Far Ahead 1ère

LEARNING CONTEXT

In order to write a text about the good use of the internet, the student of 1ère of Lycée Moderne Bocanda are reading an article to get informed.

LESSON CONTENT

Language function	Grammar point / structure	Vocabulary
Using the conditional	-as long as -in case of -in case -unless	expand, powerful, hacker, fancy, worn out, due to, fancy, argue, strengthen

COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY

The use of internet and social media is alarming today. Many teenagers are becoming addicts, and some of them even abandon their studies. Write a short paragraph in which you give your opinion about what to do for a better use of technolody by the youth.

EXERCISES

TEXT

How Technology and Social Networks Affect our World

If you ask around how people think technology and social networking affect them, many will say that they have an expanded circle of social connections and stay in touch more. In today's world, online social media has become more powerful and as well as the most destructive thing worldwide as long as with time, all generations have come to embrace the changes that social network has brought about; teenagers and young adults are the most fanatic users of sites such as Twitter, Facebook or Myspace. (…) Technology is the present world. It affects people's daily lives. Whether it inspires somebody to be the master at videogames or makes somebody a computer hacker, it has changed the generation of teenagers and young adults rapidly. Years ago, before these social technologies existed, our parents did not have fancy cell phones or high-tech computers back then because it was never created. They only had a bike and ball until it was worn out. Friends would go out and have a good time, and popularity would be something of importance to a lot of people. With the rise of these new technologies, traditional personal interactions will continue to be at risk unless we realize their negative effects on people. Social networking affects our lives in many ways, including our communication, self- expression, bullying, isolations, friendships, and even our very own sense of humanity. With the constant use of social technologies, less people are

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communicating in person. Many people are becoming more isolated due to the lack of personal interaction. It is becoming easier to go through life with less personal confrontations and conversations. Many people are becoming used to only conversing through their computer. This trend has continued and leads to developing an interesting number of adults that function well in a keyboard setting while failing at human interaction. Some would argue that social sites and networks, such as Facebook, were created for the sole purpose of helping individuals communicate. In their opinion, there are good reasons that these technologies should be used, and communication is still the number one.

Many people now use these networks to talk to their friends in other cities, states, or even other continents. They help the youth and any other user updated with what is happening around the world, help the teenagers stay connected and interact with each other even if they are many miles apart. This strengthens their relationship even if they finished school and moved to different locations, they stay connected and update one another. Social media sites have also provided a platform whereby the youth can create groups and pages based on their common discipline and end up building connections and opportunities for their respective careers by updating various topics to discuss. Youth who have been interviewed say that social media has become their lifestyle and it makes their lives easier and efficient. Unfortunately, standard communication is not the only way these social technologies are used.

Adapted from the Internet: http:///opinion/socialissues

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Activity 1: Read the text and match each word or group of words in column A to its meaning in column B.

Example: 1-f

Column A	**Column B**
1. Expanded (line 2)	a- extraordinary
2. powerful (line 3)	b- very tired; can't be used again
3. Hacker (line 8)	c- because of
4. Fancy (line 9)	d- gives forces; encourages
5. Worn out (line 11)	e- to express an opinion
6. Due to (line 17)	f- progressed; grew
7. Argue (line (21)	g-important
8. Strengthens (line 27)	h-someone who uses the internet for bad things.

Activity 2: Underline the correct alternative for each statement.

N°1 is an example.

1. The text is about :

a- The advantages of the internet
b- information and new communication technology
c- the problem of communication today

2. According to the text, technology permits:

a- to think of friends and relatives
b- to be connected to friends and relatives
c- to be more powerful

3. The text mentions that social media interests:

a- most teenagers and young adults
b- everybody
c- computer hackers only

4. Social technologies have :

a- affected people's lives positively
b- complicated people's lives
c- turned old parents into popular men

5. Because of social technologies :

a- people rarely talk to each other directly
b- human interactions are developed
c- everybody communicate only through Facebook

6. Some people think that social sites are good means:

a- to exchange information with friends
b- to complete studies
c- to move to different places

7. Social technologies :

a- are only for communication
b- can expose people's private lives
c- are danger for teenagers' grammar and speaking skills

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8. Technology tools :

a- are absolutely indispensable today
b- have undoubtedly transformed the world to its best
c- are the most perfect invention

Activity 3: Fill in the gaps with the right conditional expression.

Example : 1 – in case

as long as – in case of – in case – unless

1- I am taking an anti-virus…….. I have problems with my computer.
2- Don't stop your laptop …….. you have saved all your files.
3- The hackers will go on reading your mails …….you don't secure your password.
4- I have a power bank…… a power failure.
5- Hackers will exist……. the police doesn't make efforts to catch them.

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