



Breaking News Natural **SOCIAL NETWORKING DOWN the world** “

➤ VOCABULARY Rocks! 🙌: MATCH the TERMS & DEFINITIONS

1	OUTAGE /'aʊtɪdʒ/		Block, stop functioning.
2	SOCIAL NETWORKING /ˌsəʊʃəlˈnetwɜːkɪŋ/		Somebody who informs on a person or organization regarded as engaging in an unlawful or immoral activity. They play an important role in business and government. When an organization or even a federal agency steps over an ethical or legal line, they are the ones who make such acts public so that violators can be held to account.
3	ACKNOWLEDGE /əkˈnɒlɪdʒ/		The use of Internet-based social media sites and applications to stay connected with friends, family, colleagues, customers, or clients to interact with other users, or to find people with similar interests to one's own. It can have a social purpose, a business purpose, or both, through sites like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.
4	GO DOWN		the range of operations that can be run on a computer or other electronic system.
5	UPDATE /ʌpˈdeɪt/		It is a type of router that links separate systems in different meshes of a network with each other. As its name suggests, it plays the role of a backbone in any network connection and, as such, is part of the backbone network.
6	FUNCTIONALITY /fʌŋkʃəˈnæləti/		It is a means of securing digital data using one or more mathematical techniques, along with a password or "key" used to decrypt the information. This process translates information using an algorithm that makes the original information unreadable.
7	BACKBONE /'bækbəʊn/ ROUTER /'ruːtə(r)/		noun a period when a power supply or other service is not available or when equipment is closed down.
8	WHISTLE BLOWER /'wɪsl bləʊə(r)/		It is the profession of protecting digital information, devices, and networks from unauthorized users. People in this profession also ensure the integrity, security, and accessibility of information for authorized users.
9	ENCRYPTION /ɪnˈkɹɪpʃn/		accept or admit the existence or truth of. / recognize the importance or quality of.
10	CYBERSECURITY /'saɪbə(r)sɪˌkjʊərəti/		to make something more modern or suitable for use now by adding new information or changing its design: / to give someone the most recent information

ANSWER:

- ✚ HOW MUCH do you DEPEND ON social media?
- ✚ HOW did you feel during the OUTAGE?
- ✚ WHAT was your reaction?

READ the articles. Area: Tech 04/10/2021

➤ **WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook down! What has happened on October 4th, 2021?**

Twitter was the only major social network still standing..

WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook all went down in global outage hitting the social networks.

All three apps are owned by Facebook, and as a result use the same infrastructure and all stopped functioning properly around 18:00 CEST (17:00 BST, and 12:00 ET) on 04/10/2021.

WhatsApp was the first to fail - initially the web version, then the phone app, before Facebook and Instagram followed suit, leaving users unable to view their messages or feeds on the three social networks.

The outage wasn't concentrated on one region either, with reports of issues throughout the USA, UK and Europe, as well as Latin America. But there are alternatives to WhatsApp you can use.

As is somewhat customary during such outages, users thought that the internet itself was down, or there was an issue with devices. However, other social networks such as Twitter, TikTok and Telegram were operating as normal.

The last time the three Facebook-owned networks went down was on March 19, 2021 and on that occasion it took a couple of hours for the sites to regain proper functionality.

Facebook's internal systems used by employees also went down. The company did not say what might be causing the outage, and while it can be normal for websites and apps to suffer outages, one on a global scale is rare.

A bad week gets worse for Facebook as it is going through a separate major crisis after whistleblower Frances Haugen, a former Facebook product manager, provided The Wall Street Journal with internal documents that exposed the company's awareness of harms caused by of its products and decisions. Haugen went public on "60 Minutes" on Sunday.

Haugen also anonymously filed complaints with federal law enforcement alleging that Facebook's own research shows how it magnifies hate and misinformation, leads to increased polarization and that Instagram, specifically, can harm teenage girls' mental health.

The Journal's stories, called "The Facebook Files," painted a picture of a company focused on growth and its own interests over the public good. Facebook has tried to play down the research. Nick Clegg, the company's vice president of policy and public affairs, wrote to Facebook employees in a memo Friday that "social media has had a big impact on society in recent years, and Facebook is often a place where much of this debate plays out."

Twitter, meanwhile, chimed in from the company's main Twitter account, posting "hello literally everyone" as jokes and memes about the Facebook outage flooded the platform.

How do you know if your WhatsApp is down?

The easiest way to verify if WhatsApp is down for you, is to try sending a message via the app. You will notice that there isn't the usual ticks to say the message is sent, but instead the clock symbol to indicate the message is pending delivery.

Why did WhatsApp go down? **WhatsApp have updated users on Twitter, but only acknowledged there was an issue, without revealing why the service has gone down.**

"We're aware that some people are experiencing issues with WhatsApp at the moment," WhatsApp tweeted. "We're working to get things back to normal and will send an update here as soon as possible." Like WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram haven't been able to update the feeds on their applications. Though they have issued a message via Twitter.

"We're aware that some people are having trouble accessing our apps and products," Facebook tweeted. "We're working to get things back to normal as quickly as possible, and we apologize for any inconvenience."

➤ **Business** ~ Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp back online after global outage ~ Social Sharing

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/facebook-outage-1.6198928>

Services for all 3 Facebook-owned social networks went down
Facebook and Facebook-owned apps Instagram and WhatsApp were up and running again late Monday after being hit by an outage that affected users around the world.

Facebook apologized for the problem, saying the lack of access was caused by "configuration changes on backbone routers that co-ordinate network traffic between data centres."

The social media giant said the disruption to network traffic "had a cascading effect on the way our data centres communicate, bringing our services to a halt." It said there is no evidence that user data was compromised. **DISRUPTION**

Users reported being unable to log into any of the services a little before noon eastern time on Monday. Facebook posted a message to Twitter around 6:30 p.m. saying they were "happy to report they are coming back online now."

It was the largest such outage ever tracked by the web monitoring group Downtdetector, which collates complaints about web outages.

Downtdetector said there were more than 30,000 Canadians complaining about an outage. Instagram logged 21,000 reports of outages, while there were at least 14,000 reports about WhatsApp in Canada alone.

Reports of similar outages emerged throughout the U.S., Europe, Africa and Asia. **EMERGE**

About 30 minutes after it began, Facebook acknowledged the outage in a tweet, saying that around the world some "people are having trouble accessing Facebook app. We're working to get things back to normal as quickly as possible, and we apologize for any inconvenience." APOLOGIZE

Doug Madory, director of internet analysis for network technology firm Kentik Inc., said it appears to be related to the Domain Name System (DNS), which routes internet traffic to where it is supposed to go. TRAFFIC

Cybersecurity analyst Ritesh Kotak told CBC News early in the outage that it was likely the result of an internal error and not a hack on the company by outside forces.

Matthew Prince, CEO of the internet infrastructure provider Cloudflare, tweeted that "nothing we're seeing related to the Facebook services outage suggests it was an attack."

Prince said the most likely explanation was that Facebook mistakenly knocked itself off the internet during maintenance.

Facebook outage: Why the world's largest social network was down for 6 hours

➤ Daniel Howley · Technology Editor Tue, October 5, 2021, 11:02 AM·3 min read

Facebook's (FB) week went from bad to worse Monday when the social networking giant's apps went dark worldwide for roughly six hours. In a post written Monday afternoon, Facebook VP of infrastructure Santosh Janardhan blamed the outage on a configuration error on the "backbone routers that coordinate network traffic between our data centers caused issues that interrupted this communication."

That error, Janardhan writes, had a cascading effect on Facebook's entire network, both inside and outside of the company, knocking out its services around the world. Because of that, employees couldn't fix the problem remotely, forcing the company to dispatch engineers to one of its data centers to perform a manual reset, according to a memo obtained by The New York Times.

While the company doesn't go into specifics about what exactly went wrong, journalist Brian Krebs, citing sources within Facebook, pointed to the company's Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) as the culprit. BGP is essentially how internet traffic is routed across the web. It automatically finds the best paths for your requests for websites to get to a site's servers and back. Without it, there's no internet.

When Facebook's BGP routes went down, there was no way for it to talk to the broader internet, dropping the company's services from the web, Cloudflare's engineering director Celso Martinho wrote in a blog post.

The outage, which began at roughly 12 p.m. ET (Eastern Time), shut down the main Facebook app, Instagram, WhatsApp, Messenger, and the company's Oculus virtual reality apps. The collapse was so widespread that Facebook employees couldn't communicate with each other using the company's internal chat app, while others were unable to open doors on the Facebook campus.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg posted a two sentence apology on Monday evening saying that the company's apps were coming back online and that he knows "how much you rely on our services to stay connected with the people you care about."

The company's stock, meanwhile, took a nasty hit during the outage, dropping nearly 5% on an already rough day for the rest of the tech sector with competitors including Apple, Amazon, and Google shares falling between 1% and 2%.

The outage came a day after former Facebook employee and whistleblower Frances Haugen appeared on "60 Minutes" to discuss a trove of internal documents she leaked to the news program and to The Wall Street Journal.

Haugen is set to testify before the Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Consumer Protection on Tuesday, where she'll discuss the leaks. Last week, the subcommittee heard testimony from Antigone Davis, Facebook's global head of safety, who was grilled over accusations that Facebook has taken a page from Big Tobacco in hiding research that its products are harmful.

➤ QUESTIONS ON GOOGLE:

- What is Facebook Blackout 2021?

The outage cut off Facebook's internal communications, preventing employees from sending or receiving external emails, accessing the corporate directory, and authenticating to some Google Docs and Zoom services.

- Why did Facebook and WhatsApp stop working?

Facebook's explanation was a little more technical. It said "configuration changes on the backbone routers that co-ordinate network traffic between our data centres caused issues that interrupted this communication". This had a "cascading effect... bringing our services to a halt".

A backbone router is a router designed to be used to construct backbone networks using leased lines. Backbone routers typically do not have any built-in digital dial-up wide-area network interfaces

- What is the use of backbone router?

Backbone routers are used for routing your web application's URLs. Earlier, hash fragments (#page) were used to route the URLs, but with the introduction of the History API, it is now possible to route with standard URLs (/page).

- What's behind Facebook outage?

Facebook said its engineers determined the problem originated with a networking issue that interrupted communications between its data centers. The outage comes after a whistleblower said that the world's largest social network is prioritizing profits over users' safety.

- Is Instagram down because of the whistleblower?

Less than a day after a report aired on "60 Minutes" from a whistleblower detailing company practices that prioritized profits over safety, both Facebook and Instagram went down for more than six hours on Monday.

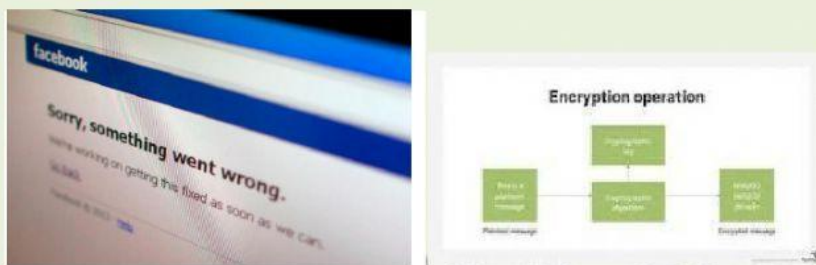
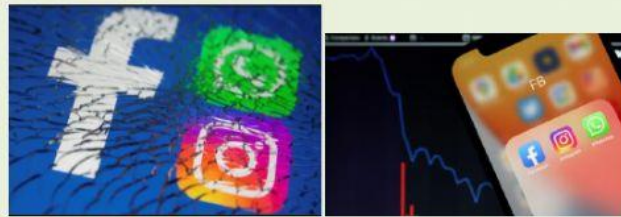
Facebook has a "faulty configuration change" for an outage that prevented the company's 3.5 billion users from accessing its apps and services, including Whatsapp and Instagram, for nearly six hours.

- What caused outage of Whatsapp?

Facebook on Monday cited faulty configuration changes on its routers as the root cause of the nearly six-hour outage that prevented the company's 3.5 billion users from accessing its social media and messaging services. Libby Hogan reports.

- How safe is WhatsApp?

WhatsApp chats are protected by end-to-end encryption, which means no one can see your messages except the people you share them with.



WhatsApp Timeline

May 10, 2016 WhatsApp is introduced for both Windows and Mac operating systems.

January 2018 WhatsApp launches WhatsApp Business, a platform for small enterprises where they can connect with customers.

Who is the CEO of WhatsApp?

English Zone

