

Look!

I'm speaking emoji 😊



- 1 Anna is sitting on the sofa and she's sending Lucy an instant message. They're having a long conversation, but Anna isn't only using real words and they aren't writing real sentences. Like most other young people, they're messaging with small, **colourful** pictures. They're communicating with emojis.
- 2 Look around and you can find **creative** emoji T-shirts, posters, videos, and emoji stories and songs. Emojis are everywhere, but where are they from and why are they so popular?
- 3 The inventor of the first emojis, Shigetaka Kurita, is from Japan, and 'emoji' comes from the Japanese for *picture* (*e*) and *letter* (*moji*). There are now more than a thousand, showing people and ideas from many cultures, not only Japan. They now have many different skin colours, and they are becoming a truly **international** language.
- 4 Emojis and emoticons are popular because they can show our feelings. When we aren't speaking face-to-face, it's important to see if a message is sad, silly, **funny** or happy. So emojis are **useful**, but most of all they add a bit of colour to our lives, and a bit of fun. And that's why we really love them.

Read the article. Which of topics A–E are in the text? Put the topics in order.

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|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| A Emojis to communicate | ☐ |
| B Fashion in Japan | ☐ |
| C Emojis in everyday life | ☐ |
| D Emojis and emotions | ☐ |
| E Where emojis are from | ☐ |

1.16 Read and listen to the article again.
Write *true* or *false*.

- 1 Lucy is reading a message made of emoticons.
- 2 There are emojis on clothes.
- 3 Emojis show only Japanese culture.
- 4 The people and faces in the new emojis use a lot more colours.
- 5 Emojis don't help with communication.