

Exercise 8

Read the sentences and choose the supporting statements that are clear and relevant.

Social media and the virtual world are now more important than the real world in the construction of young people's cultural identity.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Give your own opinion.

1. Young people like to try out different identities in social media posts,
 - which allows them to hide their activities from their parents.
 - which lets them experiment with various cultural identities.
2. National newspapers, radio and television are still the main cultural institutions
 - that help young people think about themselves and the world.
 - that influence how young people form opinions about the world around them.
3. Interactive computer games, particularly online games, give young people the chance to role-play in different multicultural social environments.
 - It follows on that they will make a variety of friends from different nations.
 - That is to say, they can experiment with different identities in various situations.
4. The internet, and the ability to chat to people from all over the world online,
 - has enabled young people to discuss and negotiate cultural differences.
 - has replaced pen pals, and this is the new way to keep in contact with people.

5. It is the language that one is brought up with, and not one's profile on social media, that determines cultural identity.
 - In other words, how a person communicates face-to-face is more important than the tool they use to express themselves online.
 - The main point is that there is often a language barrier both online and offline.
6. Parentage, education and where young people spend their childhood are important factors in the determination of cultural identity.
 - In reality, parents, schooling and the social environment often reinforce a young person's idea of culture.
 - The inescapable fact is that education is the key to everything in life.
7. Posting comments, photos and video content online allows young people to experiment with their cultural identity.
 - As such, it is leading to possible identity theft.
 - Therefore, their cultural identities are more fluid and open than a generation ago.
8. Where a young person grows up is absolutely pivotal in deciding their cultural identity.
 - In my opinion, social media and the online world have a far smaller impact on their identity than their surroundings.
 - What's more, I moved to another country when I was 14 and it gave me a greater cultural understanding.
9. Playing interactive, competitive computer games with people of other nationalities lets young people role-play characters in different virtual environments.
 - In this way, online games are possibly eroding cultural differences.
 - This means that they can make lots of friends all over the world.

10. Chatting to people worldwide using social media platforms has allowed young people to discuss and exchange their ideas about their cultural heritage.

- From my experience, I have been able to meet people from all over the world online.
- From my experience of communicating with various nationalities, a global youth culture is slowly being formed.