READING

Read the text. Then complete the tasks.

Social media and social networking seem to play an imperative part of peoples' lives around the world. There are some people who debate whether it is improving or limiting communication skills. Sitting behind a computer communicating with cyber friends can be easy and fun, but it can weaken person's verbal communication skills.

Accessibility that one has to the internet through different devices has made getting information and connecting with people an easy way in some cases. People are communicating almost every day through texting, e-mail, and other social media. Because it has had such a modern explosion in popularity and usage, social media has become the new norm when it comes to communicating everything from huge life events like birthdays and wedding parties to small ones like what one ate for dinner. Social media has had one of the most substantial impacts on how people communicate within the past decade.

Communication skills are simplified by the use of social media networking. It is being used in many forms for several reasons. Social networks like Facebook and Twitter have always encouraged their subscribers to come up with an online identity. Then they build a personal network of friends that connects to an open worldwide community. Information is now shared freely between the two. These parties can communicate either publicly or via the more discrete personal messages. Here the mode of communication is mainly in writing.

There are other social sites like YouTube that give users a platform to upload and share videos. Here, users post videos of themselves for other users to view. YouTube has been a great platform for musicians and film producers as their fans can easily access their music videos. Other social sites like MySpace have also given users the platform to post videos on their profiles. Such sites enable easy access to a variety of videos like music, sports, documentaries, and movies.

With the emergence and growth of social media, there are benefits and disadvantages to the way communication is practiced. One of the major disadvantages is the effect that it can have on kids through cyber bullying and unwanted exposure. Younger people are using mass communication without realizing the consequences.

Communication has improved by the continual growth of social media. The ease of access makes it very beneficial to everyone. The positive impact on communication definitely overcomes the negative one and makes it very beneficial.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

READING 3 (continued)

Task One: For each item, write a short answer (not more than FOUR WORDS).

13. What effect does social media have on verbal communication?

_____

14. What can users access through platforms like YouTube and Myspace?

_____

15. Give two examples of the negative effect that social media has on kids?

_____

16. Why is social media very beneficial to everyone?

_____

Task 2: For each item, shade in the bubble ⬭ next to the correct option.

17. Social media started affecting communication _____.

⬭ only now ⬭ long time ago ⬭ ten years back

18. Online messaging has been _____ by social media.

⬭ enhanced ⬭ Reduced ⬭ decreased

19. Social networks like tweeter encourages _____ communication.

⬭ verbal ⬭ written ⬭ no

20. The writer is _____ the use of social media.

⬭ against ⬭ with ⬭ not sure about

LIVEWORKSHEETS