Unit 8: Society

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Words

Write the letter of each definition with the word it defines. If you don't know the definition, use the context of the reading passage to help you. Look for the words in bold as you read the passage.

PARAGRAPHS 1–2

Words	Definitions
1 ..... explode	**A** adv., seemingly
2 ..... post	**B** n., information in the form of numbers; data
3 ..... community	**C** n., movement in a certain direction; popular fashion
4 ..... statistics	**D** n., a social group
5 ..... apparently	**E** v., to display information in a public place
6 ..... trend	**F** v., to grow suddenly and rapidly

PARAGRAPH 3

Words	Definitions
7 ..... consequence	**G** n., result
8 ..... immense	**H** n., communication; connection
9 ..... contact	**I** adj., very big, huge
10 ..... undergo	**J** v., to experience; suffer
11 ..... carry out	**K** v., to remove completely
12 ..... pursue	**L** v., to trade something
13 ..... eradicate	**M** v., to do; perform
14 ..... impose	**N** v., to force
15 ..... exchange	**O** v., to hunt for; seek

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PARAGRAPH 4

Words	Definitions مرجع زبان ایرانیان
16 ..... interact	**P** n., a friend you do not know well
17 ..... adolescent	**Q** adj., easily affected
18 ..... susceptible	**R** n., a person between the ages of thirteen and nineteen
19 ..... acquaintance	**S** v., to develop; open up
20 ..... unfold	**T** v., to communicate with

Reading

Social Networking

A

During the first decade of the twenty-first century, the phenomenon of social networking on the Internet **exploded** across the globe. Online social networking sites are websites that allow people to **post** personal information about themselves and to connect with people who have similar interests. It is a way of forming **community**, but a community that exists online rather than in physical space. Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, and Twitter are examples of some of the most commonly used social networking sites.

B

Recent **statistics** show that 75 percent[1] of Internet users around the world use social networking sites to some extent and that 22 percent of all time spent online is spent on these sites. Of all the countries in the world, Italy is **apparently** the place where social networking is most popular. Italians spend an average of six and a half hours per month per person on social networking sites, followed by Australians, with an average time of just over six hours a month. In comparison, the Japanese are much less interested in social networking, spending an average of just two and a half hours per person per month on these sites. The global average is close to five and a half hours per month. The social networking **trend** has increased among people of all ages.

C

The phenomenon of social networking sites may present unanticipated **consequences** for people's lives in the future. The **immense** popularity of these sites is evidence that they contribute to users'

[1]BrE: per cent

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lives in positive ways, but there are drawbacks as well. Social networking sites allow people to broaden their social reach both personally and professionally. These sites allow users to stay in **contact** with friends and relatives and reconnect with old friends from the past. The sites also provide opportunities for people to connect with strangers in far-distant places who share similar interests or to seek support when **undergoing** difficulties such as a grave illness. In the business world, people use social networking sites to **carry out** business, **pursue** employment opportunities, or seek new business clients. Students of all ages discuss homework assignments and future educational and career plans. Social networking sites **eradicate** the limits **imposed** by the physical world and make it possible to communicate and **exchange** information with people everywhere.

D

On the other hand, concerns are growing about online social networking. As people spend more time **interacting** with each other online, they spend less time in face-to-face communication. Social networking can actually lead to separation as families and neighbors[2] spend less time together while they are busy using the Internet. There are also potential risks. Social networking involves making personal information available online, which means that, unless the user is careful, anyone can have access to that information. **Adolescents** may be particularly **susceptible** to this danger. It is also impossible to know anyone's true identity online. **Acquaintances** found on the Internet may not be who people think they are. The effects that social networking will have on our social relationships and sense of safety remain to be seen as the future **unfolds**.

Answer the questions about **Social Networking**.

Questions 1–4

The reading passage contains four paragraphs, ***A–D***.
Which paragraphs discuss the following information?
Write the correct letter, ***A–D***.

..... **1** The different reasons people pursue contacts on social networking sites

..... **2** Possible negative consequences of social networking

[2]BrE: neighbours

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..... **3** The amount of time people spend interacting on social networking sites

..... **4** When the social networking trend became big

Questions 5–9

Complete the summary using words from the list below.

acquaintances	immense	statistics
exchanged	interact	susceptible
exploded	pursue	undergo

Recently, the popularity of social networking sites has **5**..... . There are **6**..... advantages to these sites. People use these sites to post information about themselves, seek new **7**....., and **8**..... professional opportunities. There are also drawbacks. Social networking online may mean that people **9**..... less with the people around them. It also gives strangers access to personal information.

Word Families

A

Complete each sentence with the correct word from the word family chart. Make nouns plural where necessary. Use the correct form of verbs.

noun	noun	adjective
adolescence	adolescent	adolescent

1 Parents need to be aware of how their ..... children spend their time on the Internet

2 These days, ... are used to making new acquaintances on the Internet.

3 As children enter ....., they start spending more time on the Internet, pursuing both educational and social activities.

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noun	verb	adjective
eradication	eradicate	eradicable

4 The Internet ..... the need for face-to-face communication.

5 Internet communication could lead to the ..... of face-to-face communication in many aspects of our lives.

6 Internet communication has made the limits of the physical world ..... .

noun	verb	adjective
explosion	explode	explosive

7 Countries around the world are experiencing the ..... of online social networking.

8 Interest in online social networking has ..... everywhere.

9 The ..... growth of online social networking has rapidly changed the way we communicate.

noun	adjective	adverb
immensity	immense	immensely

10 The ..... of the effects that online social networking will have on our lives remains to be seen.

11 Online social networking will have ..... effects on the way we communicate.

12 Adolescents are ..... interested in online social networking.

noun	verb	adjective	adverb
interaction	interact	interactive	interactively

13 Some sites allow users to communicate ..... .

14 Online ..... is very different from talking with someone face-to-face.

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15 Some computer games are highly ..... .

16 The Internet makes it possible to ..... with people in faraway places.

noun	noun	adjective	adverb
statistics	statistician	statistical	statistically

17 ..... information is important, but it doesn't give us a complete picture.

18 We can learn a lot from ....., but we need to be careful about how we interpret them.

19 The differences in the data were not ..... significant.

20 ..... tell us that online social networking communities have grown explosively.

Word Families

B

Choose the correct word family member from the list below to complete each blank.

1	interactions	interacts	interactive
2	explosion	exploded	explosive
3	adolescence	adolescent	adolescents
4	Statistics	Statisticians	Statistical
5	eradication	eradicated	eradicable
6	immensity	immense	immensely

These days, many people are spending more time in online **1**..... than they do in face-to-face communication with the people around them. The **2**..... of interest in online social networking is especially preva-

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lent among the **3**..... age group. **4**..... who study this trend report that a significant number of teenagers spend a large percentage of their free time online and that much of this time is spent on social networking sites. The Internet has apparently **5**..... limits to communication. It is too soon to tell how **6**..... this will affect teenagers' lives as they grow up. For now, experts recommend that parents impose restrictions on the amount of time their children spend on the Internet.

Paraphrases

Read the sentence from the reading passage. Then, choose the sentence that has the same meaning.

1 *The immense popularity of these sites is evidence that they contribute to users' lives in positive ways, but there are drawbacks as well.* (paragraph 3)

A The popularity of social networking will continue to grow as people learn about its great advantages.
B Many people are aware of the disadvantages of social networking but continue to use it in spite of this.
C Social networking is very popular because people enjoy its advantages, but there are also disadvantages.

2 *The effects that social networking will have on our social relationships and sense of safety remain to be seen as the future unfolds.* (paragraph 4)

A In the future, more and more people will feel the effects of social networking.
B We don't yet know what effects social networking will have on us in the future.
C People expect that social networking will become safer in the future.

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Word Skill

PHRASAL VERBS WITH CARRY

Phrasal verbs are made up of two parts: a verb and one or two particles. The meaning of the phrasal verb is usually not related to the meanings of the individual parts.

Phrasal Verb		Meaning
carry verb	*out* particle	do or perform
carry verb	*through* particle	complete successfully
carry verb	*on* particle	continue

Choose the correct phrasal verb from the list above to complete each sentence.

1 We thought our friendship would end after we graduated from school, but we have been able to ..... being friends through the Internet.

2 Some people ..... all their business completely online.

3 They will ..... with their plans to start a community center[1] for adolescents.

Listening

Track 22

*Listen to the conversation. Complete the notes below. Write **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD** for each answer.*

Online Social Networking

Advantages
1..... with people all over the world
2..... personal and professional opportunities

Disadvantages
loss of local 3.....
don't know true identity of online 4.....

[1]BrE: centre

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Writing (Task 1)

The statistics below show basic information about users of three different online social networking sites.

Summarize[1] the information by selecting and reporting the main information and making comparisons.

Write at least 150 words.

Use of different social network sites by age group. Percentages are of total membership.

	Adolescents (13–17)	Younger adults (18–25)	Older adults (25+)
Site A	20%	47%	33%
Site B	7%	27%	66%
Site C	55%	35%	10%

Speaking

Talk about the following topics.

What kinds of information do you generally exchange with your friends online?

Do you feel that parents should impose any kinds of limits on their adolescent children's use of the Internet? Why or why not?

Do you believe that the online social networking trend will continue in the future? Why or why not?

[1]BrE: summarise

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