8.6 Speaking

Keeping a conversation going

VIDEO **IS SOMETHING WRONG?**

Mum: It's so nice to go on a walk together. I love this park. You're quiet. Are you OK? Is something wrong?
Bea: I'm fine, Mum. Honestly.
Mum: Hmm … Come on, I can tell that you're worrying about something. It usually helps to talk.
Bea: I don't know.
Mum: Go on, tell me.
Bea: Well, some nasty comments were posted on my nature blog.
Mum: Really? What do you mean?
Bea: I shared my photo of that kingfisher we saw on the river. I thought it was amazing because it's hard to take good photos of birds when they're moving so fast.
Mum: Right …
Bea: Some people put nice comments like, 'So cute!'
Mum: That's nice!
Bea: But other people put things like 'Yawn. Boooring post!' Then one person said, 'A boring post by a boring person.' And I was really hurt.
Mum: Just ignore them! By the way, how many people liked your post?
Bea: I don't know, a few hundred?
Mum: Well, it seems to me most people agree with you.
Bea: Hmm, I see what you mean. 'Mum knows best', hey? After all, you're older and wiser … much older, in fact!
Mum: Hey! I'm not that old, OK?

SOUNDS GOOD! So cute! • Just ignore them! • By the way.

1 42 8.15 Look at the photo. How do you think Bea feels? Watch or listen and check.

2 Do you think Bea's 'friends' showed respect in their online comments?

SET FOR LIFE

3 What can you do about negative comments on your social media? Discuss in pairs. Use these ideas to help you.
- ignore them
- block the person commenting
- if possible, speak to the 'commenter' in real life

4 Study the Speaking box. Find examples of the phrases in the dialogue.

SPEAKING Keeping a conversation going

Inviting
Are you OK? Is something wrong?
Do you want to talk about it? Go on, tell me.

Encouraging
What do you mean? Really? Then what happened?
I'm sure (you were/did). Exactly.

Reassuring
Don't worry. I'm fine. Honestly.
Of course you can (do it). Right.

Responding
Definitely! Absolutely! I don't know.

5 8.16 Complete the dialogues with one or two words in each gap. Listen and check.

1 A: I like social media, but sometimes it's bad.
B: What do you _____ ?
A: When people post negative comments it's bad. I try to post positive comments.

2 A: I think thirteen is the right age to use most social media sites.
B: Yes, _____ ! I think twelve is too young.

6 Discuss the statement in pairs. How many phrases from the Speaking box can you include in your conversation?
All social media is bad for friendship.

YOUR WORLD

7 In pairs take turns to tell your partner about something you like or dislike about social media. Invite your partner to comment.

LIVEWORKSHEETS