

Grammar

Choose the participle clause in each sentence.

- 1 My job is to repair cars damaged in accidents.
- 2 Dancing to the music, my sister slipped and fell in front of all the guests.
- 3 Items purchased more than 30 days ago cannot be returned for a full refund.
- 4 Dripping constantly, the noise from the tap kept me awake.
- 5 Having read the good news, he grabbed the letter and threw it into the air

Complete the sentences with the present, past or perfect participle form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 (read) _____ the newspaper, Janet decided to go out.
- 2 (prepare) _____ by her children, Eva was enjoying the luxury of breakfast in bed.
- 3 (stop) _____ by the police for speeding, Matthew searched for his driving licence.
- 4 (spend) _____ all his own money, Frank asked his brother for a loan.
- 5 (want) _____ to catch up with old friends, Mary organised a Sunday brunch.

Complete the sentences with the best options a), b) or c).

- [illegible]



5 no harm in trying, you know.

a) There to

b) There have been

c) There's

Vocabulary

Match 1–6 with words and phrases a) to f) that have a similar meaning.

1. be influential

2. be swayed by

3. put on a pedestal

4. someone to look up to

5. influence behind the scenes

6. emulate

a) follow in the footsteps of

b) role model

c) pull strings

d) give way to

e) idolise

f) carry weight

Choose the best definition a) or b).

1 a set of mathematical instructions that tell a computer program how to function

a) hacking

b) algorithm

2 intentionally posting insulting information on social media

a) filtering

b) trolling

3 a way of restricting information provided on social media so that it fits a user's interests or profile

a) filtering

b) echo chambers

4 a social media tool used to deliver information that only supports a user's existing opinions

a) post-truth

b) echo chamber

Complete the sentences with the best words. The first or last letter is given to you.

1 The salespeople were so p_____ that we left the store without buying anything.

2 Of all the job candidates, Ms Jones is the most t_____. I feel that she is sincere about her career goals.



3 His talk was clear and s_____, so at least we didn't have to spend ages listening to boring details.

4 The videos he posts on his social media account are so c_____ that I just can't resist watching them.

5 You're forgetting what is t_____ here. No one really cares about what happened at your last job.

6 The article didn't have e_____ sources. Nothing could be backed up with real evidence.

7 Her smile was very p_____. That's all it took for me to change my mind.

8 Social media connections aren't g_____ friendships. You can't think of them as friends in the real world.

Choose the best adjectives to complete the sentences.

9 The speaker was quite stiff/expressive. She made wild gestures and moved around a lot.

10 My brother has a self-deprecating/assured sense of humour. He always makes fun of himself.

Listening

Listen and choose the correct answer to each question.

1 Who was accused of having poor grammar and spelling?

a) Jennifer

b) Sophia

c) Seth

2 Who or what is Silver Princess?

a) a female blogger

b) a user ID

c) a charity shop



3 Which word best describes trolling?

- a) complementing b) provoking c) confusing

4 Who was the target of a trolling campaign?

- a) Jennifer b) Henry c) Seth

5 What are internet trolls usually interested in?

- a) healthy debates b) hard facts c) reckless rumours

6 What was the false evidence against Henry Billingham?

- a) a photo b) stolen goods c) witnesses

7 What did protesters want Henry Billingham to do?

- a) lose his job b) pay money c) give a public apology

8 What could have stopped the spread of the false story?

- a) common sense b) a public survey c) an arrest

Reading

Match the sentence halves 1–8 with a)–h) to make factual statements based on the blog post.

1 Some readers don't appreciate

7 Bridget's profession is

2 Bridget thinks that it's dangerous to meet

8 If something is written in a post,

3 Readers who post negative comments believe

a) their identities are anonymous.

4 Bridget says that her blog is

b) the research that goes into a blog.

5 Bridget doesn't see herself as someone who

c) social media blogger.

6 The screensaver on Bridget's computer is

d) disgruntled readers in person.



e) it can never really be removed.

g) very closely scrutinised.

f) looks down on others.

h) called Rule of Five.

Bridget Go Lightly

fashion beauty people lifestyle

I Role-model on social media Whenever I come across a really exciting blog or tweet that I agree with one hundred percent, I can't resist scrolling down and perusing the comment section. I am curious to see what others think. Part of me hopes their viewpoints tie in with mine, but there's also that nosy part of my character that just wants to listen in, as it were, to their conversation with the writer. Being all too naive, I am frequently shocked to see expletives and rude, harassing comments that are totally unrelated to the topic being discussed.

It's a pity that some readers can't appreciate information that has a positive vibe and is succinct, research based and accurate. I've often had this sort of thing occur in my own blog posts, so I shouldn't stand aghast at the vulgarities or disrespect. This type of thing is all too common in the realm of social media – licensed incivility! It's like the Wild West out there. Freewheeling cowboys and cowgirls armed with word-loaded pistols out to get us writers every day. I wonder if these grumpy readers would have the audacity to say in person what they so easily write? I wouldn't want to meet them anyway. It would probably be perilous, if not downright deadly. I suppose some readers have the strong conviction that the internet provides anonymity, thus gives them the opportunity to avoid being held accountable for vicious and hurtful words.

Often my instinct is to retort in a condescending manner and swiftly put them in their place, but why stoop to their level? I resolved, once upon a long time ago, to 'role-model' on social media – my own little verb for setting a good example! Since what I write on my blog is always eyeballed, I can assume the way I handle nasty insults is also scrutinised. I am NOT immature and condescending. Nor am I petty. Why should others bate me into being someone other than myself? Role-modelling is being true to yourself. My TRUTH is my online etiquette. It is my code of politesse. When I started blogging, I created Rule of five which, as my screensaver, pops up periodically to sermonise. It is my do's and don'ts reminder, lest I forget. As a professional social media blogger, I think it's wise to think before I type. Seasoning my responses with a pinch of salt never does much harm either.

What I can't do is overlook the fact that some of my readers look up to me, despite how much I underestimate my own work. Some have even gone as far as labelling me a role model. Since I've accepted this moniker to some degree, I won't allow myself to be distracted by online bullies. Nor will I stoop to speaking their fault-finding language. Positive role-modelling begins with the first word I write!