

Gapped Text

Practice 1

You are going to read an article about Social Media Decorum. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A** to **H** the one which fits each gap (1 to 8). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Social Media Decorum

Social media started to become a hit in the early 2000's. Among the first famous platforms were Friendster, Myspace and Facebook. (1)

These platforms began as a means for users to share and exchange thoughts and events, as well as to stay virtually connected with one another. It is not what social media can offer to us that becomes an issue, it is how people make use or abuse it.

The Internet is a powerful tool to disseminate information; truth or otherwise. (2) Since the number of internet users have increased, all thanks to social media, news spread even faster than the speed of light. People are able to react quickly ever since. This is also another concerning issue. (3) Some lash out at the comment sections and use faulty words.

When there are differences in opinions on the net, debates ensue. (4) Some users couldn't even be bothered to observe their manners while communicating. They have no respect to other people especially older people by calling out names and even resort to cyberbullying. (5) All these 'keyboard warriors' are only brave online as they think they can get away with it. Imagine if these arguments take place in real world, would they have the courage to actually say the words they type virtually out loud?

As the influence of social media on our lives grows, there needs to be a proper lesson or awareness on its etiquette. The way in which we greet and exchange conversation with others online needs to have a certain standard as in the real life. The youngsters must show respect to the elders even in a heated debate. This must be taught to everyone including children as young as gadget-using age. (6) Why the difference in first ace after all?

- A** Some hide behind anonymous accounts to throw hatred and cause conflicts.
- B** Not everyone has the patience to show courtesy towards other internet users.
- C** The same mannerism expected in real life must be applied in the virtual world.
- D** The way some internet users respond to certain issues is worrying.
- E** Within split seconds, news and rumours can spread to every part of the world.
- F** The idea of socialising virtually was alien that people are still adapting to its norm and decorum even to date.
- G** The exchange of word in the course of the arguments is scary sometimes.
- H** Social media developers are finding ways to curb this issues so that more internet users will be at ease browsing these platforms.