

1B I'm really into Facebook

Learn to talk about how you communicate

G Present simple and present continuous

V Adverbs

1 READING AND LISTENING

a How do you communicate? Do you do these things with your friends and family? If not, what do you do instead?

- send birthday cards to friends
- write a blog
- send postcards from abroad
- write letters by hand
- make plans with friends by email
- cancel plans by text or instant message
- telephone friends to invite them somewhere

I always send birthday cards.

I don't. I write 'happy birthday' on Facebook instead.

b Read the introduction to the article and the line in green under each photo. What do you think the missing words are?

c Read the article and check your answers to 1b. Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Julie think her friend will cancel?
- 2 What does Facebook help Gin to remember?
- 3 Why is Marc writing a blog?
- 4 Why does Claudio prefer sending instant messages?

d 1.10 Listen to four speakers. Match them with the topics they talk about.

Tara	blogs and emails
Magda	relationships and text messages
Chris	important days and Facebook
Mike	plans and text messages

e 1.10 Listen again. Is each speaker happy or unhappy about the use of technology? Why/Why not?

f Which ideas do you agree with?

- It's rude to cancel by text.
- It's alright to finish a relationship by text.
- Facebook is the perfect place to say 'Congratulations!'
- I love to get postcards and letters.

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

Communication is quick and easy with digital technology. But is it making us lazy? Should some things be more personal?

Julie



Gin

'Facebook means I don't _____ anything.'

I'm **really** into Facebook. It's **especially** useful for birthdays, that kind of thing. When I check my Facebook page, it tells me whose birthday it is. So I never forget and I can just write a message on their wall. And when people have big news – maybe a new baby or something – you can write a comment straight away.

'I'd prefer a phone call to a _____.'

I **absolutely** hate it when friends cancel by text message. It's so rude. My friend Sara and I planned to go to the cinema tonight. But I'm **pretty** sure she'll cancel – she generally does. I'm waiting for her text message now.

Marc



'Writing a blog is a lot easier than sending _____.'

I'm studying in New York, away from my family. And while I'm here I'm writing a blog so my friends and family at home know my news. I **particularly** like putting all my photos on there because people leave comments. Most of my friends use Facebook but I prefer writing a blog. It's **fairly** easy to do and it's quicker than writing 50 separate emails.

Claudio



'I just send an _____.'

I normally communicate with people by instant message because they're free. I've even finished relationships with girlfriends by IM. In fact, I mainly do that. I know it's not the best thing to do – but it's better than a lot of shouting and crying. Some of my friends don't even send a message. They just stop all communication and wait for her to realise they're not interested.

2 VOCABULARY Adverbs

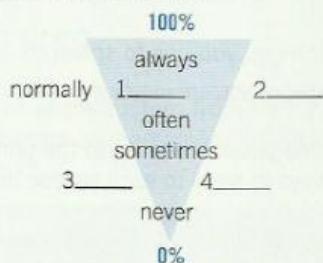
a Look at the **highlighted** adverbs in the text. Answer the questions.

- 1 Which adverbs make another word stronger?

- 2 Which adverbs make another word less strong?

b Look at the sentences and complete 1–4 with the frequency adverbs.

I **generally** just send a text.
I **hardly ever** get cards or presents from friends.
I **mainly** finish relationships by IM.
My daughter **rarely** calls me.



c **1.11 Pronunciation** Look at the words in the table. Do the letters in **bold** make **long** or **short** vowel sounds? Complete the table headings. Listen and check. Repeat the words.

_____ vowels	_____ vowels
always	pretty
normally	especially
hardly	particularly
awful	often
gorgeous	sometimes
alright	never
rude	lovely

d **1.12** Listen and repeat the sentences.

- 1 I absolutely hate rude people.
- 2 I particularly enjoy getting letters.
- 3 I think Facebook is fairly good.
- 4 I hardly ever send postcards.
- 5 I generally text my friends.
- 6 I'm really into blogs.
- 7 I'm pretty sure my mum can't use Skype.
- 8 I mainly see my family at weekends.

e **1.13** Change the sentences in 2d so they are true for you. Then compare your sentences with a partner.

3 GRAMMAR

Present simple and present continuous

a Look at these sentences. Which are present simple? Which are present continuous?

present _____

1 I like putting all my photos on my blog.

2 When I plan something, I send a text.

present _____

3 I'm waiting for her text message.

4 She's writing a blog so we know what she's doing.

b Match sentences 1–4 with these uses of present simple and continuous.

We use the present simple to talk about:

- habits and routines
- feelings and permanent situations

We use the present continuous to talk about:

- actions right now
- temporary actions around now

c **►** Now go to Grammar Focus 1B on p.142

4 SPEAKING

Ask and answer the questions. Give reasons for your answers.

How often do you ...?

- send a message to your boss or teacher to say you are sick
- share important news on Facebook
- read English-language websites
- send an e-card instead of a real card
- buy presents for people online
- start conversations with new people
- write emails in English
- call friends and relatives on Skype
- send video by instant message

How often do you
read English-language
websites?

Not very often. But,
I'm planning a holiday in
America...

How often do you
send 'e-cards'?

Never. I absolutely
hate them!