UNIT 2 Module 2

Lesson 5 5

LESSON OVERVIEW

In this lesson, students will compare and talk about conventional digital media. They will reflect critically on the benefits and drawbacks of digital media. They will also explore the use of polls to understand public opinion on digital media.

Focus on Vocabulary

Get Ready!

1. Look at the speech bubbles. Complete the gaps with the verbs in the box.

▪ read	▪ browse	▪ watch
▪ share	▪ listen	▪ follow

How do you find out about the news?

a. I _____ a newspaper once a week.

b I _____ to the news on the radio.

c. I _____ the news on TV.

d. I _____ the news on Twitter.

e. My friends _____ links to interesting news stories on social media websites.

f. I _____ news sites on the Internet and I have a few news apps on my phone.

Listen

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2. Listen. Which of the people in exercise 1 is speaking?

Example: *Speaker 1 - b*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read



Many of us these days get our news online or through social media. There are many advantages of this. First, we can get news 'in real time'. Eye witnesses can post information online about an event as it happens, using their smart phones to take photos or videos. We also have 24-hour online news services which keep us constantly updated. Secondly, we can get news wherever we are using a smartphone or tablet. We can read it on the bus or the train at any time of day or night. Thirdly, we have a lot more information at our fingertips from many different sources, international as well as national. This means we have a better understanding of what is going on in the world as a whole. Reading different reports on the same news story also means we get a more balanced view of events.

On the other hand, there are also disadvantages. First, sources are not always reliable and there are many stories that are not completely true. It is sometimes difficult to know what to believe. Secondly, a lot of news shared on social media is not serious news, for example celebrity gossip. If people spend their time reading this, they have less time to spend on real news stories. Finally, the Internet has been bad for newspaper publishers because people are reading their news for free, instead of paying for newspapers

One simple truth, however, is that we are living in the Information Age, and the way we receive and give information is constantly changing.

5. Read the text and choose the correct answers.

1. What is the writer trying to do in this article?
   a. tell people how to use social media
   b. give his opinion about online and social media news
   c. warn people about the dangers of social media
   d. encourage people to use social media to read the news
2. What can a reader find out from this text?
   a. how to post news stories as they happen
   b. how to work out what is fact and what is fiction
   c. where to find information about the news
   d. what the writer thinks about social media today

Glossary

- eye witness: *testigo presencial*
- updated: *al corriente*
- at our fingertips: *a mano*
- source: *fuente*

6. Read the text again and copy and complete the chart.

Online and social media news

Advantages	Disadvantages
We can get news at it happens.	

7. Discuss in pairs.

a. Which of the opinions in the text do you agree / disagree with?
b. Can you think of other advantages / disadvantages?

Useful language

Organising your writing

First, ...
Secondly ...
Finally, ...
On the other hand, ...
However, ...

Write

8. Write a short essay giving your opinions about online and social media news.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Focus on Language

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9. Read the results of a survey. Try to complete the gaps with the words in the box. Then listen and check.

■ newspapers	■ increasing	■ Internet	■ listen
■ television	■ 24	■ young	



Modern technology is changing the way we get our news, according to a recent survey. Although most adults (75%) still watch news on (1) _____ , the number of people getting news online is (2) _____ . 41% of adults say they use the (3) _____ for news, compared to 32 % last year. More (4) _____ people use the Internet than older people. Six in ten adults in the 16 - (5) _____ age group say they use the internet or apps for news, compared to 31% of those aged 55 and over. Over a third of adults (36%) say they (6) _____ to news on the radio.

News consumption through (7) _____ is declining considerably, particularly amongst the under 35s. Just 40% of adults say they buy a newspaper to get their news, a fall of 25% over the last ten years.

10. Look at the examples and complete the rules with the present simple or the present continuous.

Technology is changing the way we get our news.
The number of people getting news online is increasing.
36% of adults listen to news on the radio.
Most adults still watch news on television.

We use _____ for permanent situations or facts.
We use _____ to talk about changing situations.

11. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

■ not buy	■ listen	■ use	■ decrease

a. More and more people _____ the Internet to get news.
b. Teenagers _____ many newspapers.
c. Older people often _____ to the news on the radio.
d. The number of adults buying newspapers _____ .

LIVEWORKSHEETS