

## READING

a Read four posts about weekends. Which two do you think are true?



**Bob1972** @Bob1972

New York for the weekend, amazing!  
#greatweekend #nosleep



**UrbanJ** @UrbanJ

Spent all day Sunday at work, then  
in bed at 9.00. #terribleweekend



**Topsy** @TopsyReal

Husband took me to Paris for lunch  
on Saturday! #bestdayout



**Betty** @BettyM

Sunday in the park with the family,  
picnic and games. #ilovesummer

b Now read the article “A Boring Weekend”, then read the tweets again. Which do you think are probably not true? Why not?

### A BORING WEEKEND?

Don't tell anybody

A new survey has shown that 20% of British people tell lies about their weekend on social media.

The survey, by a travel website, shows that people invent stories to make their lives appear more interesting than they really are. Psychologist Judi James, one of the organizers of the survey, said, “When some people read their friends’ posts and see their photos on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, they begin to feel jealous of

them. They think that their friends are having a much more exciting life. So they invent details about their own weekend."

One of the main reasons people give for inventing these stories is to have something to talk about on Monday morning at work or at school. This is because they don't want other people to think that they have a **boring** life. The most popular lies people tell are that they went to a party or went away for the weekend, and 3% of people even put on fake tan on Sunday night to make their colleagues think they've had a weekend away in the sun. One person in ten invents a romantic break with their partner.

People aged 18 to 24 are the ones who most often tell lies on social media and men lie more often than women. Only 20% of people interviewed said that they always told the truth in posts.

Judy James said: "Social media is becoming increasingly important in our lives, and it seems we're living one life online and another in reality."

So when you are feeling jealous on a Saturday night because your best friend is having a romantic dinner with her boyfriend in Venice, stop and ask yourself, "Is she really there, or is she just sitting at home feeling **bored** like me?"



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c Read the article again. Correct the wrong information.

- 1 One in ten people sometimes lie about their lives on social media.
- 2 When people read about what their friends are doing, they are happy for them.
- 3 People invent stories about their weekend because they want their families to think they have exciting lives.
- 4 Some people put on fake tan on Sundays so that people at work think they look good.
- 5 Young women are the biggest liars.
- 6 People's online lives are the same as their real lives.

d Talk to a partner.

- 1 What do you usually answer when people ask you 'Did you have a good weekend?' Is it always true?
- 2 When was the last time you had a really exciting weekend? What did you do?