FULL BLAST FORM 4 UNIT 1a page 8-9

A. Fill in the blanks.

1. What do you know about social networking sites?

communicate	links	activities	profile	personal	Instagram

A social networking site is a website where individuals can set up an online _____, including _____ information, and add _____ to other profiles. Social networking sites allow users to _____ with friends or other users and share wth them ideas, _____ , events and interests. Facebook, _____ and Snapchat are among the most popular social networking sites worldwide.

B. Read the texts A – D. What is each person's opinion about social networking sites? Is it positive, negative or both?

YOUR OPINION:

Social networking sites

A. Alicia, 16

I spend a lot of my free time on social networking sites. They're great for keeping in touch with my mates and finding old friends, too. The other day, I found a school friend from primary school. I was so pleased to hear her news. Social networking sites are also useful for helping people out. I saw on a friend's page that one of his friends needed a driving instructor. My uncle is a driving instructor and he's on the same social networking site. I introduced them and they were both happy. My parents complain that playing online games with friends is a waste of time, but I totally disagree. You see, I'm really into trivia games, but also word games and chess, which I find amusing and educational. So, I can't see any drawback there.

B. Adrian, 16

I don't think social networking sites are for me. I really don't like having too much information about myself out there on the web. I mean, anyone could find my email and start sending me spam or viruses. There's also cyberbullying which can be very nasty. A friend of mine had to stop using a social networking site last month because someone was constantly saying horrible things about her. Also, someone could pretend to be you and commit crimes. Imagine that!

C. Rayyan, 15

I'm not a big social networking site user to be honest. I can't understand why people have to update their status all the time. I don't want to know what someone is buying at the supermarket, or how long they've been waiting in traffic. What do I care? But I find it useful for events. We're putting on a school play at the end of the year, and using a social networking site makes it a lot easier. We're organising the tickets these days. It really helps. We've got our own page to advertise the school play, and when it's over we'll upload photos and videos of the highlights.

D. Emma, 14

I'm a member of a social networking site but I'm thinking about deactivating it. For one thing, it's taking up too much of my time. I play virtual games, chat with loads of people and I have hundreds of friends. The more time I spend on social networking sites, the less time I have for my real life. I think the final straw is my mum. She is a member of the same social networking site as me and I made the mistake of making her one of my friends. She hasn't lost touch with her old school mates and she really enjoys being online. But now she tends to follow my every move. It's so embarrassing! I can't do anything without her knowing.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C. Look at the highlighted words in the texts and choose the correct meaning a or b.

1. drawback
   a. disadvantage b. advantage
2. nasty
   a. boring b. unpleasant
3. constantly
   a. rarely b. continuously
4. update
   a. give the most recent information b. give false information
5. highlights
   a. the best parts of something b. the highest parts of something
6. deactivating
   a. making something stop working b. breaking something

D. Read the texts A-D again and answer the questions below. Write A, B, C or D.

Who mentions...

1. ... that he / she has been using social networking sites a bit too much? ○
2. ... helping friends through a social networking site? ○
3. ... that some personal information on social networking sites is useless? ○
4. ... the dangers of using social networking sites? ○
5. ... organising an event at school? ○
6. ... how a family member might make him/her stop using a social networking site? ○
7. ... finding an old friend? ○

LIVEWORKSHEETS