

## Social media's influence

Social media has become a powerful tool in shaping how we connect and communicate with others. While it allows us to stay in touch with friends and family, it can also create misunderstandings and conflicts in relationships. A recent study found that 40% of people have had an argument with their partner due to something seen or said on social media. Many users admit feeling jealous or insecure after comparing their lives to the seemingly perfect lives of others online. This comparison often leads to feelings of inadequacy and can strain even the strongest of relationships. However, it's not all negative. Social media can also bring people closer by allowing them to share experiences and stay connected despite physical distance. The key is to find a balance and use these platforms in a way that enhances, rather than hinders, our relationships.

### Comprehension Questions

1. According to the text, what percentage of people have argued with their partner because of social media?
  - A) 20%
  - B) 40%
  - C) 60%
2. What do many users feel after comparing their lives with others online?
  - A) Happy
  - B) Confused
  - C) Insecure
3. What is one positive aspect of social media mentioned in the text?
  - A) It helps people to stay connected despite physical distance.
  - B) It guarantees better relationships.
  - C) It always prevents conflicts.
4. What is the key to using social media effectively according to the text?
  - A) Avoiding it completely.
  - B) Finding a balance.
  - C) Sharing every aspect of your life.
5. What emotion does the text say can strain relationships?
  - A) Excitement
  - B) Insecurity
  - C) Curiosity

### Vocabulary

Match the following words with their correct meaning:

1. Inadequacy
  - A) The feeling of not being good enough
  - B) The ability to communicate
  - C) A sense of happiness
2. Strain
  - A) To strengthen something
  - B) To put pressure on something
  - C) To enjoy something
3. Enhance
  - A) To make something worse
  - B) To improve something
  - C) To ignore something
4. Conflict
  - A) A serious disagreement or argument
  - B) A feeling of comfort
  - C) A state of happiness
5. Jealous
  - A) Feeling content
  - B) Feeling threatened by someone's success
  - C) Feeling unmotivated

## Grammar Focus: Reported Speech

Examples from the text:

*Direct Speech:* "Many users admit, 'I feel insecure after comparing my life online.'"

*Reported Speech:* "Many users admitted that they felt insecure after comparing their lives online."

- **Exercise:** Convert the following sentences into reported speech:

1. "Social media has become a powerful tool," she said.

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2. "I had an argument with my partner," he mentioned.

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3. "They feel insecure," the report stated.

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4. "Social media can create misunderstandings," the expert explained.

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5. "Finding a balance is important," she advised.

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