

Module 6 – Freedom of Expression on the Internet

Student:

Freedom of Expression on the Internet

Do you think that there is freedom of speech in your country?

Listen to a conversation between two friends about freedom of expression on the internet.
Decide who would say each of these sentences: Beth, Mark, or Neither.

I'm responding to a thread on Facebook.	Beth	Mark	Neither
I'd like to know the argument of those who are against freedom of expression.	Beth	Mark	Neither
I think there should be strict censorship on the internet.	Beth	Mark	Neither
I disagree with censorship, that's why I'm responding to the post.	Beth	Mark	Neither
I've seen people offend others with their comments online.	Beth	Mark	Neither
It's good to have a smart debate about relevant topics.	Beth	Mark	Neither
It's important to agree with everything you read online.	Beth	Mark	Neither

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Script:

Beth: Hey Mark, what's up? What are you doing?

Mark: Hey Beth! Oh, just responding to a friend's Facebook post. Can you believe it? These people are arguing about how there should be censorship on the internet. Like if we disagree with an opinion that someone else has, we shouldn't be able to voice our own.

Beth: What? But that's ridiculous! We all are allowed to have our ideas about different topics. What is the argument of the people who believe in censorship?

Mark: Well, they say that we can offend other people by expressing viewpoints that differ from theirs and that we should not start any controversy.

Beth: Well, I mean...I have seen people offend others with their comments on social media and stuff, but I don't think that it's necessary to do that. We can express our opinions without insulting others who feel differently. It's healthy to have an educated debate about important topics.

Mark: My thoughts exactly. So that's why I'm responding to this thread. I just hope my friend doesn't unfriend me!

Beth: Yeah, that's a good idea. But make sure you support your opinion with facts or solid arguments!

Mark: Of course! And I'll be sure to cite my sources too!