

GE9 SOCIAL MEDIA 1

1. Read and follow the instructions below:

- Click the following box to watch the video. Listen carefully and repeat each line.
- Then, click the **blue box** to record your voice. When you finish, copy and paste the recording link into the **white box**.
- Pay close attention to the speakers' intonation and try to imitate it as closely as possible.

In December 2025, Australia banned children under 16 from having accounts or creating content on social media platforms including Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, Facebook, and YouTube.

Today, I'm going to tell you why I believe that the social media ban was a prudent decision.

Social media isn't always a kind place. There are people who say hurtful things, there's pressure to look perfect, and there are things kids can see that they're just not ready for.

Social media can be very addictive. You tell yourself, just five more minutes, but five more minutes on social media is a bit like five more minutes before bedtime. Somehow it magically turns into 30 minutes.

Social media increases teen isolation from their parents, families, and friends.

I understand the reason behind the rules. The government wants to protect young people from cyber bullying and harmful content, and those are real problems. But here's a difference, not every young person uses social media in a harmful way. Some of us use it to create, to learn, to build confidence.

A lot of young people say they are bored without social media. They feel like they're missing out. But where I'm standing, kids are talking face to face. Families are spending more time together. So, to anyone who's struggling without social media, I'm sorry you're frustrated, but I'm kind of glad you're back.

You should use that precious time to make memories, either with your family or friends. Because as you guys know, you guys only have one childhood, so make sure you guys make the best of it.

