

International Conversation Cafe

Lifestyle Topic: Social Media World Wide

Read the information, read the questions, and choose one to answer.

Introduction

Fact of social media: 60% of the world's population uses social media. The average daily usage is 2 hours and 24minutes (April 2023) (quoted from: <https://www.smartinsights.com/>). According to Statista, the most popular social networks worldwide as of January 2023 are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Facebook | 8. Douyin |
| 2. Youtube | 9. Telegram |
| 3. Whatsapp | 10. QQ |
| 4. Instagram | 11. Pinterest |
| 5. WeChat | 12. Snapchat |
| 6. Tiktok | 13. Twitter |
| 7. Facebook messenger | 14. Kuaishou |
| | 15. Sina Weibo |

What are the social media platforms you have used from the above-mentioned list and what is your favorite one? Explain.

In different countries different social media platforms are commonly used for communicating with friends and others. What is the most used social media platform in your country? Are there any that are banned?

Should government and/or authorities be allowed to limit/censor social media?

Impact of social media

Social media has profoundly impacted our lives, altering the way we communicate, share information, and perceive ourselves and the world. It's a double-edged sword, enabling connections across the globe while also presenting challenges. On the positive side, it has facilitated real-time updates, awareness of social issues, and strengthened relationships.

However, it has also introduced concerns like spreading false information, addiction, cyberbullying, privacy invasion, and the pressure to create an idealized online persona.

What do you think is the positive side of social media?

What is the most serious negative side of social media?

What are your concerns about young people in your country using social media?

How can your concerns be addressed?

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