

The Examination

There are **two** texts. Read each text carefully and answer all of the questions.

Text A

You read this article in a magazine:

THE JOY OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Blogger, Helen Baker, tells us why she thinks social media benefits us all

In recent years, popular social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have become an essential part of most people's lives. It's thought that we all spend a large part of our day on our smartphones or tablets, and this benefits us in many ways.

Social lives

Social media connects us to the world. We can express ourselves freely, which can help shy people feel more confident. Like-minded people can share their interests, such as dog training or their favourite football team. We can connect with friends and family at home or abroad instantly and we can make new friends worldwide. If we belong to a club, we can keep up to date with courses or social events.



Education

Social media gives us educational opportunities. It allows students to ask questions and join study groups, or simply discuss homework. It's a great way to research information, much easier than reading endless books at the library. We learn about current affairs as they happen with no need to wait for tomorrow's newspaper.

Issues

Local and public issues can be shared on social media. Lost dogs can be returned to their owners, pictures of stolen bicycles can be circulated and warnings about traffic hold-ups can be shared more quickly.

Employment

Finally, social media is the new way to advertise. You can apply for jobs through online employment agencies or see when the local pub needs bar staff. There's no need to spend time searching through the local paper. It's all there at our fingertips!

In short, social media has made our lives easier in many ways and keeps us informed and connected every day.

1

The **main** purpose of Text A is to:

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	describe what the social media sites look like	
B	persuade people to use social media when applying for jobs	
C	instruct people on how to use social media	
D	explain why social media is important	

2

Look at the 'Social Lives' section in Text A.

Who might gain confidence from using social media?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	Someone who belongs to a club	
B	A dog trainer	
C	A shy person	
D	Someone with a friend living abroad	

3

Look at the 'Social Lives' section in Text A.

What does the phrase 'like-minded people' mean?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	People who look alike	
B	People who express themselves freely	
C	People who share the same interests	
D	People all over the world	

4

In Text A, which sentence is the writer's **opinion**?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	We all spend a large part of our day on our smartphones or tablets	
B	Local and public issues can be shared quickly on social media	
C	Social media allows students to ask questions and join study groups	
D	Warnings about traffic hold-ups can be shared	

5

In Text A, why is there an apostrophe in the phrase 'most people's lives'?

Give **one** other example from Text A of an apostrophe used for the same reason.

(2 marks)

Reason: _____

Other example: _____

6

In Text A, what does the image suggest about social media?

(1 mark)

7

Identify **one** organisational feature used in Text A.

Explain how this feature helps the reader.

(2 marks)

Organisational feature: _____

Explanation: _____

Text B

You read this letter in response to Helen Baker's article:

The Editor
The Magazine
11 High Street
Highfield
HF1 1RT

16 November

Dear Editor,

Re: Helen Baker's article on the joys of social media

While I fully agree with Helen Baker that social media has become an important part of modern society, I feel strongly that it has had a negative effect.

We may be more connected, but only at a distance. Teenagers can find it difficult to talk to other people face-to-face. They become tongue-tied when a real person attempts to start a conversation. Also, social media can become addictive. Addicts cannot help but spend every spare waking minute on Facebook or Instagram and often continue late into the night. This causes a lack of sleep and can eventually affect their health.

It is too easy to reveal your personal details. You are able to post embarrassing information or photos in an instant, but do you realise that no post is ever completely deleted? For example, a future employer might find that picture of you partying in Tenerife when you were 18 years old. It may be easier to search for jobs, but an unfortunate past in your teens may go against you a few years later.

I agree that social media **can** be educational, but it can also **distract** you from your studies. Instead of concentrating on solving a maths problem, you go on Facebook for five minutes for a rest. You then end up reading about your favourite celebrity's latest scandal and forget about the maths. Also, what is wrong with reading the newspaper? At least it is **reliable**. Who can be **sure** that what you read on social media is true?

All in all, social media may have potential benefits, but for me, the harm outweighs the benefits.

Yours faithfully,

Dev Johnson

18 FAIRLANDS
HIGHFIELD
HF11 2BD

8

Look at the second paragraph in Text B.

What does the writer think is a direct effect of social media on teenagers?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	They struggle to find a job	
B	They find a face-to-face conversation difficult	
C	They can't do maths anymore	
D	They will become unwell	

9

Look at the fourth paragraph in Text B.

Which textual feature is used to emphasise words?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	Different font sizes	
B	Underlining	
C	Images	
D	Bold text	

10

The writer of Text B asks, 'Who can be sure that what you read on social media is true?'

What does the writer mean by this?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	That what you read on social media is true	
B	Some of the things you read on social media are not true	
C	You should not read anything on social media	
D	Everything you read on social media is a lie	

11

The writer of Text B states 'We may be more connected, but only at a distance'.

What does 'connected' mean in this context?

Tick (✓) one box

(1 mark)

A	Secured	
B	Blended	
C	Coupled	
D	Linked	

12

State **one** way in which you know Text B is formal.

Give **one** example from the text to support your answer.

(2 marks)

Why Text B is formal: _____

Example: _____

13

Look at the final statement in Text B.

What does the writer mean when he says that 'the harm outweighs the benefits'?

(1 mark)

14

In Text B, why does the word 'Tenerife' start with a capital letter?

Identify **one** other example from the text where a capital letter is used for the same reason.

(2 marks)

Reason: _____

Other example: _____

15

Compare Text A and Text B.

Identify **two** similarities or differences on the **use of social media**.

(2 marks)

Comparison 1: _____

Comparison 2: _____

END OF ASSESSMENT

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Level 1

Reading

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