

The millennials not using social media

Level 1 | Elementary

1 Warmer

Are you on social media? If so, which social media accounts do you have?

How do you use social media?

How much time do you spend each day on social media?

2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences using these key words from the text. The sections are given to help you.

social worker

delete

account

millennial

profile

1. A _____ is someone who was born towards the end of the twentieth century. (introduction)
2. A _____ is personal details and other information that someone posts about themselves on a social media website or app. (introduction)
3. A _____ is someone who gives help and advice to people who have problems. (Celan)
4. If you _____ something from a computer, you remove it completely. (Celan)
5. If you have an _____, you have personalized access to a website, by entering a username and password. (Celan)

break up

unique

benefit

gosh

realize

6. If something is _____, it is very special, unusual or good. (Celan)
7. A _____ is an advantage. (Jason)
8. If you _____ something, you understand something that you did not know or notice before. (Lauren)
9. If you _____ with a partner, you end the relationship. (Lauren)
10. _____ is a word you use to show that you are surprised or a little annoyed. (Lauren)

3 Find the person

The text is about four people who don't use social media. Find which person the following statements refer to as quickly as possible.

1. This person doesn't like giving out personal information.
2. This person has only used social media once.
3. This person has to listen to people all day at work so doesn't want to read about people's lives in her free time.
4. This person wanted to make time to enjoy other activities.

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'Everyone could know what I was doing': the millennials not using social media

Ellen Brait

17 March, 2016

It is no secret that millennials use social media a lot. More than eight in ten say they sleep with a mobile phone by their bed, almost two thirds say they text while driving and three quarters have created a profile on a social networking site. But some millennials don't use social media at all. Here are four of them.

Celan Beausoleil, 31, Oakland, California

Beausoleil is a social worker and has had an "on and off" relationship with Facebook. She deleted her account recently because the amount of personal information about other people was too much for her.

"In my job, I spend a lot of time listening to people's lives all day, every day and it started to feel too much to go on social media and see every detail of everybody's lives, including people that I don't know very well," she said.

But she loves the way social media connects the world in a unique way. "One thing I really liked about Facebook was that I could sit for hours and click on a friend and then click on one of their friends and finish on someone's Facebook page from the other side of the world," she said. "I used to do that all the time."

Jason Mathias, 26, Baltimore, Maryland

"One day, I realized: I'm spending so much time doing this. I wonder what it would be like if I didn't spend this time here and spent it doing something else. What if I was doing other things with these seconds? What would they become? Would I enjoy it?"

Mathias had Facebook and Twitter accounts for years but deleted them in November 2012. He "quickly forgot that Facebook existed but he can still understand the benefits of having social media accounts, for example how easy it is to organize large events online.

But now he loves his extra free time. He spends his spare moments at work reading news articles and books. And with no friends to follow online, he has to "pick up the phone and call them", something he now enjoys.

Lauren Raskauskas, 22, Naples, Florida

Raskauskas describes herself as a "private" person. So she doesn't like social media much. She

has deleted her Twitter account and deleted her Facebook account two years ago when she realized that she "didn't like everyone knowing what I was doing".

She recently broke up with her partner. The last time she broke up with someone and she was online, it was not nice. "One time, I broke up with somebody while I was on Facebook and I thought 'Oh my gosh, should I change my profile photo? Should I change my status?' And this time I don't have to worry about that," she said.

Hariharan Rajagopalan, 18, Boston, Massachusetts

Rajagopalan, a student at Boston College, doesn't see a problem with not using social media. He says that he "hasn't seen any effect at this point". His classmates post about parties and events on Facebook but they send him a text message, too, he said.

Rajagopalan has only used social media once: it was the only way to contact his new roommate at college. Before starting his first year at college, he joined Facebook to contact his future roommate and talk about their plans for that year.

He still has the account but he says: "I don't use it. I don't check it."

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4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings and endings to make statements about the text.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Celan likes the way Facebook ... | a. ... because she is a private person. |
| 2. Jason spends a lot of his extra free time ... | b. ... to contact his new roommate before they started college. |
| 3. Jason now has to ... | c. ... connects the world in a unique way. |
| 4. Lauren doesn't like social media much ... | d. ... knowing what she is doing. |
| 5. Lauren doesn't like other people ... | e. ... reading news articles and books. |
| 6. Hariharan used Facebook ... | f. ... pick up the phone and call his friends. |

5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

- other world side the of the
- that used I do to time the all
- to have I worry don't
- day day every all
- about Facebook one liked I really thing
- doing spending time this I'm so much

6 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. mobile | a. information |
| 2. social | b. time |
| 3. free | c. phone |
| 4. text | d. article |
| 5. personal | e. message |
| 6. news | f. media |

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7 Word stress

Divide these words from the text into two groups depending on their stress.

account
detail

secret
unique

amount
enjoy

social
profile

mobile
delete

A o o	B o o

8 Discussion

- Would you ever stop using social media? Why? Why not?
- Do you agree with any of the four people in the article? Why? Why not?

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KEY

2 Key words

1. millennial
2. profile
3. social worker
4. delete
5. account
6. unique
7. benefit
8. realize
9. break up
10. gosh

3 Find the person

11. Lauren
12. Hariharan
13. Celan
14. Jason

4 Comprehension check

15. c
16. e
17. f
18. a
19. d
20. b

5 Chunks

21. the other side of the world
22. I used to do that all the time
23. I don't have to worry
24. all day, every day
25. one thing I really liked about Facebook
26. I'm spending so much time doing this

6 Two-word phrases

27. c
28. f
29. b
30. e
31. a
32. d

7 Word stress

A 0 0	B 0 0
secret	account
social	amount
mobile	unique
detail	enjoy
profile	delete