

Many people believe that social networking sites (such as Facebook) have had a huge negative impact on both individuals and society. To what extent do you agree?

*Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.*

*You should write at least 250 words.*

## Many people believe that social networking sites- Band 8 IELTS Sample Essay

With the development of new technologies, the popularity of social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, etc., has skyrocketed. Despite its many negative effects on society, its potential benefits should not be overlooked. I firmly bolster with the former viewpoint my preference and other side is justified further.

To begin with, social networking sites play a crucial role in bridging the gap in communication between people, both locally and with far-flung loved ones. In addition, these platforms typically host numerous social groups that enable users to locate others who share their interests and worldview regardless of physical proximity. In recent years, we've witnessed how sharing stories of injustice and social issues on social media has had a significant impact on authority and resulted in victims receiving justice. Internet social networks have become a widespread medium for people to disseminate and discuss news, ideas, and other information.

However, as social networking sites have become more commonplace, it has been observed that people have become disjointed and fragmented. The younger generation is more open to this shift, and they prefer to devote the majority of their time to these platforms. Their mental and physical health have suffered as a direct result of this. Furthermore, this has a significant impact on families, whose once-robust social bonds have all but vanished in the modern era. Individuals are becoming reliant on these platforms, leading to a decline in their interpersonal skills.

In a nutshell, the use of social networking sites has made people more sociable and interactive. The huge cost previously incurred for international calls is eliminated, giving people the confidence to talk to anyone, anywhere in the world. However, as a result of their hectic schedules, most people prefer electronic communication to face-to-face encounters, which increases the distance between them.

## Many people believe that social networking sites- Band 7.5 IELTS Sample Essay

There are those who believe that social media is bad for people and society as a whole. Since people are vulnerable to developing an unhealthy addiction and social media can lead to schisms in society, I wholeheartedly agree with this viewpoint.

The most noticeable impact of social media is on users' psychological well-being. The small doses of dopamine that come from scrolling through one's feed, feeling outraged at posts, receiving likes, and making positive or negative comments have become addictive for the vast majority of social media users. While there are many ways to find fulfilment, none of them are as healthy as actually accomplishing something worthwhile in the real world. Some people would rather hide away in a virtual world where the risks are much lower and the interactions are always one-sided.

On top of that, the negative effects of social media are widely recognised. Facebook is full of isolated communities that foster antisocial behaviour. Conspiracy theories, for instance, are a common subject of online discussion and speculation. Isolation from the rest of society is a gradual process that can manifest itself in real-world events like the January 6 insurrection and the Occupy Wall Street movement. These events have the appearance of protests, but the ideas being advocated are usually too radical to result in reform that can be defended or implemented pragmatically.

To recapitulate, for the average person and for society as a whole, social media has far more negative effects than positive ones. Governments' aversion to regulation means that users should stop bothering with these services.

## Many people believe that social networking sites- Band 7 IELTS Sample Essay

There are countless ways in which humankind benefits from the progress of technology. Some people believe it leads to a surge in anarchy in society. However, a few others are of the viewpoint that it gives people a global stage on which to be seen. In this respect, I concur with the claim that technological advances in social media provide numerous advantages for young people.

It's undeniable that the advancements in technology provide us with a wide stage on which to perform. A person can expand their business and network by connecting with people all over the world. For instance, people today use these platforms to set up shop online, where they can describe their wares, receive orders for them, and collect payment, all without ever having to physically interact with a single customer. In addition to this, in the modern era, people can always find the most recent news on these sites. During the recent covid-19 pandemic, for example, people were able to access information from a variety of sources, including those on the other side of the world, in a matter of seconds.

However, there are those who worry about the potential downsides to people's personal and social lives brought on by this progress. To cite just one example, people become "mouse

potatoes," causing children to lose focus on their schoolwork and causing adults to waste a lot of time. Furthermore, as people spend more time on these sites, they become more introverted and, paradoxically, more mature in their thinking, as obscene content is readily available even to those with immature minds.

To sum up, there are those who believe that these sites are harmful to individuals and communities. However, I'm inclined to argue that many advantages exist. We need to regulate these platforms more strictly.

## Many people believe that social networking sites - Band 6.5 IELTS Sample Essay

Experts are of the viewpoint that Facebook and other social media websites have far-reaching, negative effects on both individuals and communities. I completely bolster such a viewpoint. My preference and the other side are justified in the ensuing paragraphs.

The first and foremost reason for my inclination is that the primary reason I feel this way is that many young people today would rather spend their time on Facebook or another international social networking site than out in their neighbourhoods making friends and acquaintances. In addition to this, people are spending more time online with people they have never met in person and are unlikely to meet in the future, further fracturing and destabilising society as a whole.

On the other hand, there is no denying the positive effects that online media has had on people personally. First, thanks to the rise of social networking sites like Facebook, people from all over the world can connect with one another in a way that was previously impossible. Facebook's social groups also provide users with an opportunity to connect with and learn from others who share similar interests. For instance, if parents send their children to study abroad can see their children through whatsapp video calls, facetime and google meets. As a result of such social networking sites one can connect to their closed ones anywhere in the entire world.

To conclude, While social networking sites have undoubtedly brought people closer together, they have not had the same effect on larger institutions or neighbourhoods. Communities can do more to foster future community life by encouraging residents to participate in local activities.