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## **Level 4**

### **Twitter ends 140-character Direct Message limit**

**15th August, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

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<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

Twitter users can now send Direct Messages that are longer than 140 characters. They can now be up to 10,000 characters. Tweets are still limited to 140 characters. A Twitter manager blogged about the change. He wrote: "You can now chat on and on in a single Direct Message." He added: "Direct Messages let you have private conversations....Tweets...are an opportunity for you to spark a conversation about what's happening in your world."

Twitter will make the changes soon on a country-by-country basis. Twitter's co-founder said it must do more to keep up with its competitors. Twitter has about 300 million users while rival Facebook has more than 1.4 billion. Facebook spends a lot of money on making its site more user-friendly. Twitter has been doing this too. It recently started group DMs. People can also accept private messages, even from people they do not follow.

Sources: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2489456,00.asp>  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3195532/Finally-Twitter-gets-rid-restrictive-140-character-limit-direct-messages.html>  
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/technology-science/technology/twitter-lifts-140-character-message-6242093>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Twitter users can now     | a. private conversations |
| 2. They can now              | b. in your world         |
| 3. Tweets are still limited  | c. be up to 10,000       |
| 4. A Twitter manager blogged | d. to 140 characters     |
| 5. You can now chat on and   | e. conversation          |
| 6. let you have              | f. send Direct Messages  |
| 7. what's happening          | g. about the change      |
| 8. spark a                   | h. on                    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. on a country-by-country    | a. 300 million users       |
| 2. it must do more to keep    | b. doing this too          |
| 3. Twitter has about          | c. friendly                |
| 4. Facebook spends            | d. do not follow           |
| 5. making its site more user- | e. up                      |
| 6. Twitter has been           | f. basis                   |
| 7. People can also            | g. a lot of money          |
| 8. even from people they      | h. accept private messages |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

Twitter (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Direct Messages that are longer than 140 characters. They can (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 10,000 characters. Tweets are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 140 characters. A Twitter manager blogged about the change. He wrote: "You can (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in a single Direct Message." He added: "Direct Messages let you have private conversations....Tweets... (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for you to spark a conversation about (6) \_\_\_\_\_ your world."

Twitter will make the changes (7) \_\_\_\_\_-by-country basis. Twitter's co-founder said it must do (8) \_\_\_\_\_ with its competitors. Twitter has about 300 million (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Facebook has more than 1.4 billion. Facebook (10) \_\_\_\_\_ money on making its site (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Twitter has been doing this too. It recently started group DMs. People can also accept private messages, even from people (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# TWITTER SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Twitter in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*Twitter ends 140-character Direct Message limit – 15th August, 2015*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-4.html>

Write about **Twitter** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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