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## Level 1

### Social media 'destroying how society works'

14th December, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-1.html>

An ex-Facebook boss has said social media is harmful to our society. Chamath Palihapitiya's job was to increase Facebook's users. He feels bad about getting more people to use social media. He said it is destroying society. Twenty years ago, people talked to each other. Today, they message instead of talk. People worry too much about what others think. They post photos and want everyone to like the photo. They get sad if people do not like it.

Mr Palihapitiya wants people to take a break from social media to live real life. He wants people to like each other instead of liking online "likes". Palihapitiya says fake news is affecting how we see the world. A lot of "news" is untrue. Also, people can post lies about other people. Palihapitiya said this was a global problem. He has banned his children from using social media. He said Facebook is not all bad and that it, "overwhelmingly does good in the world".

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2017/12/11/16761016/former-facebook-exec-ripping-apart-society>  
<http://mashable.com/2017/12/11/former-facebook-exec-destroying-how-society-works-chamath-palihapitiya/>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/dec/11/facebook-former-executive-ripping-society-apart>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. He feels                        | a. to each other     |
| 2. getting more people to          | b. the photo         |
| 3. He said it is destroying        | c. use social media  |
| 4. Twenty years ago, people talked | d. not like it       |
| 5. Today, they message instead     | e. society           |
| 6. People worry too much about     | f. of talk           |
| 7. want everyone to like           | g. bad               |
| 8. They get sad if people do       | h. what others think |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. take a break from social media | a. bad                     |
| 2. fake news is affecting how     | b. about other people      |
| 3. A lot of "news"                | c. good in the world       |
| 4. people can post lies           | d. to live real life       |
| 5. this was a global              | e. from using social media |
| 6. He has banned his children     | f. we see the world        |
| 7. He said Facebook is not all    | g. is untrue               |
| 8. it overwhelmingly does         | h. problem                 |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-1.html>

An ex-Facebook boss has said social media (1) \_\_\_\_\_ our society. Chamath Palihapitiya's job (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook's users. He feels (3) \_\_\_\_\_ more people to use social media. He said it is destroying society. Twenty years ago, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ each other. Today, they message instead of talk. People (5) \_\_\_\_\_ about what others think. They post photos and want everyone to like the photo. They (6) \_\_\_\_\_ people do not like it.

Mr Palihapitiya wants people to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from social media to live real life. He wants people to like each (8) \_\_\_\_\_ liking online "likes". Palihapitiya says (9) \_\_\_\_\_ affecting how we see the world. A lot of (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Also, people can post lies about other people. Palihapitiya said this was (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He has banned his children from using social media. He said Facebook is (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and that it, "overwhelmingly does good in the world".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-1.html>

Anex-Facebookbosshassaidsocialmediaisharmfultooursociety.ChamathPalihapitiya'sjobwastoincreaseFacebook'susers.Hefeelsbadaboutgettingmorepeopletousesocialmedia.Hesaiditisdestroyingsociety.Twentyyearsago,peopletalkedtoeachother.Today,theymessageinsteadoftalk.Peopleworrytoomuchaboutwhatothersthink.Theypostphotosandwanteveryonetolikethephoto.Theygetsadifpeopledonotlikeit.MrPalihapitiyawantspeopletotakeabreakfromsocialmediatoliveareallylife.Hewantspeopletolikeeachotherinsteadoflikingonline"likes".Palihapitiyasaysfakenewsisaffectinghowweseetheworld.Alotof"news"isuntrue.Also,peoplecanpostliesaboutotherpeople.Palihapitiyasaidthiswasaglobalproblem.Hehasbannedhischildrenfromusingsocialmedia.HesaidFacebookisnotallbadandthatit,"overwhelminglydoesgoodintheworld".

# SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171214-modern-society-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about social media 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Social media 'destroying how society works' – 14th December, 2017*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://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) \_\_\_\_\_

