

## Dating app asks 'Are you sure?' before hitting send

26th May, 2021



The dating app Tinder has launched a new feature designed to help reduce online harassment. The app uses an algorithm to detect potentially abusive content contained in a message created by the user. Artificial intelligence is used to create a

database that flags up examples of abusive or inappropriate language. After the author of the message presses 'send', a small box pops up that asks, "Are you sure?" or "AYS?" Developers at Tinder are optimistic the new feature will drastically cut the number of abusive messages sent on the platform. They say that while testing the app, the volume of such messages fell by 10 per cent. The new feature has been rolled out on English and Japanese versions of the app.

The Tinder dating app allows users to anonymously swipe photos and like or dislike the profiles of possible love matches based on photos, biographies and common interests. Once the app deems two users as being "matched", they can exchange messages and arrange a date. While the app has resulted in many finding love, like similar apps, it has been abused. AYS works on the concept of "act in haste, repent at leisure". The company says AYS is its response to keeping Tinder a safe environment. It said: "The early results...show us that intervention done the right way can be really meaningful in changing behaviour and building a community where everyone feels like they can be themselves."

Sources: [techradar.com](http://techradar.com) / [mashable.com](http://mashable.com) / [metro.co.uk](http://metro.co.uk)

### Writing

Dating apps should be much more regulated. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

dating / app / harassment / abusive / database / language / message / sure / version / swipe / profile / biography / date / haste / repent / leisure / results / community

### True / False

- 1) Tinder's new app will stop online harassment. T / F
- 2) Tinder's new app uses artificial intelligence to flag up abusive content. T / F
- 3) A message asking the user "Are you sure?" appears in a pop-up box. T / F
- 4) The "Are You Sure?" feature is currently only on the English Tinder. T / F
- 5) Tinder users look at biographies and profiles of other users. T / F
- 6) Once Tinder matches two people, they get each other's phone number. T / F
- 7) Tinder said the app was for people to repent in haste and act in leisure. T / F
- 8) Tinder wants people to be themselves online. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>launched</b>   | a. descriptions |
| 2. <b>harassment</b> | b. appears      |
| 3. <b>flags up</b>   | c. conduct      |
| 4. <b>pops up</b>    | d. intimidation |
| 5. <b>volume</b>     | e. swap         |
| 6. <b>profiles</b>   | f. started      |
| 7. <b>interests</b>  | g. hurriedness  |
| 8. <b>exchange</b>   | h. amount       |
| 9. <b>haste</b>      | i. highlights   |
| 10. <b>behaviour</b> | j. hobbies      |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of dating apps?
- b) What are the good and bad things about dating apps?
- c) Why is there so much online harassment?
- d) Have you ever regretted sending a message online?
- e) Is the 'Are You Sure?' button a good idea?
- f) What other buttons do apps need?
- g) What should happen to people who are abusive online?
- h) What advice do you have for people who are abused online?

## Phrase Match

1. The dating app Tinder has
  2. help reduce online
  3. detect potentially
  4. of abusive or inappropriate
  5. The new feature has been rolled
  6. profiles of possible
  7. they can exchange messages
  8. act in haste,
  9. its response to keeping Tinder
  10. building a
- a. love matches
  - b. repent at leisure
  - c. language
  - d. abusive content
  - e. community
  - f. launched a new feature
  - g. a safe environment
  - h. out
  - i. harassment
  - j. and arrange a date

## Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Would you use a dating app?
- c) What is the best way to find a partner?
- d) When was the last time you acted in haste?
- e) How has dating changed over the years?
- f) What is your idea of a perfect date?
- g) What is your idea of a perfect partner?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Tinder?

## Spelling

1. necaldhu a new feature
2. help reduce online rmahnsseat
3. detect potentially ausbvei content
4. irapetnriopap language
5. dlytaclair cut the number
6. English and Japanese ovnisestr
7. usonmloynay swipe photos
8. bspiraoigeh and common interests
9. act in tsaeh
10. etrpne at leisure
11. tnoeitrvinne done the right way
12. building a numimtoyc

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. h
6. a	7. j	8. e	9. g	10. c

## Role Play

### Role A – Dating

You think a dating app is the best app. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these apps (and why): weather, maps or English.

### Role B – Weather

You think a weather app is the best app. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these apps (and why): dating, maps or English.

### Role C – Maps

You think a maps app is the best app. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these apps (and why): weather, dating or English.

### Role D – English

You think an English app is the best app. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these apps (and why): weather, maps or dating.

## Speaking – Apps

Rank these with your partner. Put the best apps at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Maps
- Social media
- English
- Fashion
- Dating
- Weather
- Sport
- News

### Answers – True False

1 F	2 T	3 T	4 F	5 T	6 F	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.