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## **Level 5**

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

**15th August, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

**Twitter**



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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-5.html>

People on Twitter can now send messages that are longer than 140 characters. Tweets are still restricted to the 140-character limit but Direct Messages (DMs) can be up to 10,000 characters. DMs are personal communications sent from one person to another. Twitter's Product Manager blogged about the change. He wrote: "You can now chat on and on in a single Direct Message and likely still have some characters left over." 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 over the next few weeks on a country-by-country basis. The site's co-founder recently admitted Twitter needed to do better to keep up with its competitors. Twitter currently has about 300 million global users while rival Facebook has more than 1.4 billion. Facebook has spent a lot of money on making their messaging services more user-friendly. Twitter has been trying the same throughout this year. It recently started group DMs and let people 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-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. send messages that are longer | a. on                  |
| 2. restricted to the 140-        | b. your world          |
| 3. up to                         | c. left over           |
| 4. You can now chat on and       | d. conversation        |
| 5. still have some characters    | e. than 140 characters |
| 6. private                       | f. character limit     |
| 7. spark a                       | g. conversations       |
| 8. what's happening in           | h. 10,000 characters   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. over the                    | a. friendly                 |
| 2. on a country-by-country     | b. messages                 |
| 3. keep up                     | c. 300 million global users |
| 4. Twitter currently has about | d. do not follow            |
| 5. more user-                  | e. with its competitors     |
| 6. throughout                  | f. next few weeks           |
| 7. accept private              | g. this year                |
| 8. even from people they       | h. basis                    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-5.html>

People on Twitter (1) \_\_\_\_\_ messages that are longer than 140 characters. Tweets are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the 140-character limit but Direct Messages (DMs) can be up to 10,000 characters. DMs are personal communications sent (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to another. Twitter's Product Manager blogged about the change. He wrote: "You can now chat (4) \_\_\_\_\_ single Direct Message and likely still have some characters left over." He added: "Direct Messages let you have private conversations....Tweets...are (5) \_\_\_\_\_ you to spark a conversation about what's happening (6) \_\_\_\_\_."

Twitter will make the changes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ weeks on a country-by-country basis. The site's co-founder (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Twitter needed to do better (9) \_\_\_\_\_ its competitors. Twitter currently has about 300 million global users while rival Facebook has more than 1.4 billion. Facebook (10) \_\_\_\_\_ money on making their messaging services (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Twitter has been trying the same throughout this year. It recently started group DMs (12) \_\_\_\_\_ private messages, even from people they do not follow.

# TWITTER SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150815-twitter-5.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*  
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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)

