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Level 2 – 11th December 2025

Teens in Australia banned from social media

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

There is a big change online. Australia has banned children under 16 from using many social media sites. New laws say the under-16s cannot open accounts with famous sites like Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is the responsibility of these companies to make sure their users are aged 16 or above. Australia said it would fine companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines are up to \$33 million. The companies said they would use different methods to check the age of their users. New users will have to upload identification and scan their faces.

Australia's Prime Minister said social media is harming young minds. A study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful content. This included information about violence, eating disorders, and suicide. He told children to do different things, like starting a new sport or learning to play a musical instrument. He told children to "spend quality time" with family and friends, "face to face". Many children said they would be lonelier without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing the government for taking away their "right to free communication".

Sources: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-12-09/remote-kids-social-ban-isolation/106114026>
<https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/australia-social-media-ban-set-take-effect-sparking-global-crackdown-2025-12-09/>
<https://fortune.com/2025/12/09/australia-will-start-banning-kids-from-social-media-this-week-and-malaysia-is-getting-ready-to-do-the-same/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. There is a big change | a. of these companies |
| 2. Australia has banned children | b. identification |
| 3. It is the responsibility | c. under 16 |
| 4. make sure their | d. fine companies |
| 5. Australia said it would | e. faces |
| 6. check the age | f. online |
| 7. New users will have to upload | g. users are aged 16 |
| 8. scan their | h. of their users |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. social media is harming | a. with family and friends |
| 2. harmful | b. about violence |
| 3. This included information | c. new sport |
| 4. eating | d. content |
| 5. starting a | e. the government |
| 6. learning to play a musical | f. young minds |
| 7. spend quality time | g. instrument |
| 8. Two 15-year-olds are suing | h. disorders |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

There is a (1) _____. Australia has banned children under 16 from using many social media sites. (2) _____ the under-16s cannot open accounts with famous sites like Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is (3) _____ these companies to make sure their users are aged 16 or above. Australia said it would fine companies (4) _____ children to access their sites. The (5) _____ to \$33 million. The companies said they would use different methods to check the age of their users. New users will have to upload identification and (6) _____.

Australia's Prime Minister said social media is (7) _____. A study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked (8) _____. This included information about violence, (9) _____ suicide. He told children to do different things, like starting a new sport or learning to play (10) _____. He told children to "spend quality time" with family and friends, "face to face". Many children said they would (11) _____ social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing the government for taking away (12) _____ free communication".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

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SOCIAL MEDIA BANS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about social media bans 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) _____

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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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2512/251211-social-media-ban-2.html>

Write about **social media bans** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]