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**Level 3 – 11th December 2025**

## Teens in Australia banned from social media

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

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

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

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

A big change has happened in the social media world. Australia has banned children under the age of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot open accounts with sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the responsibility of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would fine the companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines could be as much as \$32.9 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 he introduced the ban because social media was harming young minds. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful content. This included information about misogyny, violence, eating disorders, and suicide. He advised children to do different things instead, like starting a new sport or learning to play a musical instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality time with your friends and your family, face to face." Many children said they would now be lonelier without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing Australia's government. They say their "right to free communication" has been taken away.

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/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. SOCIAL MEDIA:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about social media. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

change / social media / the under-16s / new laws / responsibility / fines / age / scan / harming young minds / misogyny / violence / eating disorders / sport / instrument

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. NO AGE LIMIT:** Students A **strongly** believe anyone should be allowed to use social media – even small children; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. SOCIAL MEDIA DANGERS:** What do you know about these social media dangers? What experience do you have of these dangers? What can we do about them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	My Experiences	What We Can Do
Cyberbullying			
Addiction			
Shocking content			
Online grooming			
Lack of exercise			
Body image issues			

**5. SOCIAL:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "social". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Facebook
- Instagram
- WhatsApp
- YouTube
- TikTok
- WeChat
- Telegram
- Reddit

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. banned         | a. Something (a duty) you must do or take care of. |
| 2. laws           | b. Not allowed.                                    |
| 3. responsibility | c. The people who lead a country.                  |
| 4. government     | d. Make someone pay money as a punishment.         |
| 5. fine (verb)    | e. Rules made by a country.                        |
| 6. identification | f. Change a document or picture into digital form. |
| 7. scan (verb)    | g. A document or paper that shows who you are.     |

## Paragraph 2

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 8. introduced       | h. Bad for you.   |
| 9. harmful          | i. A serious problem with eating too much or too little.                            |
| 10. misogyny        | j. Started something new.   |
| 11. violence        | k. Dislike or unfair treatment of women.  |
| 12. eating disorder | l. When a person ends their own life.   |
| 13. suicide         | m. Hurting someone in a strong or dangerous way.                                    |
| 14. suing           | n. Taking someone to court to get money because you think they did something wrong. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Children aged 16 in Australia cannot open a social media account. **T / F**
2. It is the social media sites' responsibility to check the age of new users. **T / F**
3. Parents of children who use social media could get a \$32.9 million fine. **T / F**
4. New social media users now have to upload ID and scan their faces. **T / F**
5. The article says 70% of all children regularly look at violent videos. **T / F**
6. Australia's leader said children should play sport or play an instrument. **T / F**
7. Many children said without social media, they would feel lonelier. **T / F**
8. Two teenagers are suing Australia's government because of the ban. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <b>banned</b>         | a. financial penalty |
| 2. <b>responsibility</b> | b. illnesses         |
| 3. <b>fine</b> (noun)    | c. look at           |
| 4. <b>methods</b>        | d. social relations  |
| 5. <b>check</b>          | e. duty              |
| 6. <b>harming</b>        | f. suggested         |
| 7. <b>disorders</b>      | g. put an end to     |
| 8. <b>advised</b>        | h. damaging          |
| 9. <b>suing</b> (to) sue | i. taking to court   |
| 10. <b>communication</b> | j. techniques        |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. A big change                    | a. as much as \$32.9 million    |
| 2. It is now the responsibility of | b. disorders                    |
| 3. The fines could be              | c. identification               |
| 4. use different methods to        | d. suing Australia's government |
| 5. New users will have to upload   | e. about misogyny               |
| 6. social media was harming young  | f. has happened                 |
| 7. This included information       | g. these social media sites     |
| 8. eating                          | h. a musical instrument         |
| 9. learning to play                | i. check the age of their users |
| 10. Two 15-year-olds are           | j. minds                        |

# GAP FILL

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

A big (1) \_\_\_\_\_ has happened in the social media world. Australia has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ children under the age of 16 from joining many social networks. New (3) \_\_\_\_\_ say the under-16s cannot open accounts with sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the companies if they allowed children to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ their sites. The fines could be as much as \$32.9 million. The companies said they would use different (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to check the age of their users. New users will have to upload identification and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ their faces.

*responsibility*  
*access*  
*change*  
*scan*  
*banned*  
*methods*  
*fine*  
*laws*

Australia's Prime Minister said he introduced the ban because social media was (9) \_\_\_\_\_ young minds. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful (10) \_\_\_\_\_. This included information about misogyny, violence, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ disorders, and suicide. He advised children to do different things instead, like starting a new sport or learning to play a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality (13) \_\_\_\_\_ with your friends and your family, face to (14) \_\_\_\_\_." Many children said they would now be (15) \_\_\_\_\_ without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing Australia's government. They say their "(16) \_\_\_\_\_ to free communication" has been taken away.

*lonelier*  
*harming*  
*right*  
*time*  
*eating*  
*face*  
*content*  
*musical*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) New laws say the under-16s \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. cannot open account
  - b. cannot open accents
  - c. cannot opening accounts
  - d. cannot open accounts
- 2) responsibility of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 16 nor above
  - b. 16 or above it
  - c. 16 or above
  - d. 16 or above that
- 3) it would fine the companies if they allowed children to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. access their sites
  - b. excess their sites
  - c. recess their sites
  - d. success their sites
- 4) The companies said they would use different \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. methods to cheque
  - b. methods to check
  - c. methods to click
  - d. methods to cluck
- 5) New users will have to upload identification and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. scan there faces
  - b. scan them faces
  - c. scan they're faces
  - d. scan their faces
- 6) he introduced the ban because social media was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. harm in young mind
  - b. harm in young minds
  - c. harming young mind
  - d. harming young minds
- 7) 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. at harm full content
  - b. at harmful contented
  - c. at harmful content
  - d. that harmful content
- 8) He advised children to do different things instead, like starting \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a new sport
  - b. a news port
  - c. a newt sport
  - d. anew sport
- 9) Spend quality time with your friends and your family, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. face to head
  - b. face to face
  - c. face to skull
  - d. face to toe
- 10) They say their "right to free communication" has \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. been taken a way
  - b. been taken a weigh
  - c. been taken a wait
  - d. been taken away

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

A big (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the social media world. Australia has banned children under the age of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot (2) \_\_\_\_\_ sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now (3) \_\_\_\_\_ these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would fine the companies if they allowed children to (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The fines could be as much as \$32.9 million. The companies said they would use different methods to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of their users. New users will have to upload identification and (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Australia's Prime Minister said he (7) \_\_\_\_\_ because social media was harming young minds. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked (8) \_\_\_\_\_. This included information about misogyny, violence, eating disorders, and suicide. He (9) \_\_\_\_\_ do different things instead, like starting a new sport or learning to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality time with your friends and your family, face to face." Many children said they would (11) \_\_\_\_\_ without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing Australia's government. They say their "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ communication" has been taken away.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. Where does the article say a big change has happened?
2. Whose responsibility is it to check the age of new social media users?
3. How much could social media sites be fined if children access their sites?
4. What will companies use different methods to do?
5. What will new social media users have to scan?
6. What did Australia's Prime Minister say social media was harming?
7. What kind of disorders were young children looking at information on?
8. What did Australia's leader urge children to learn?
9. How will many children feel without access to social media?
10. Who is Australia being sued by because of the social media ban?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) Where does the article say a big change has happened?
  - a) in cyberspace
  - b) all over the world
  - c) in the social media world
  - d) in the coding of websites
- 2) Whose responsibility is it to check the age of new social media users?
  - a) social media companies
  - b) parents
  - c) children
  - d) governments
- 3) How much could social media sites be fined if children access their sites?
  - a) up to \$23.9 million
  - b) up to \$32.9 million
  - c) up to \$39.2 million
  - d) up to \$92.3 million
- 4) What will companies use different methods to do?
  - a) Sell more advertising.
  - b) Attract more visitors.
  - c) Sue people.
  - d) Check the age of users.
- 5) What will new social media users have to scan?
  - a) a receipt
  - b) their computers
  - c) their faces
  - d) their surroundings
- 6) What did Australia's Prime Minister say social media was harming?
  - a) society
  - b) young minds
  - c) the Internet
  - d) people's health
- 7) What kind of disorders were young children looking at information on?
  - a) bipolar disorders
  - b) personality disorders
  - c) learning disorders
  - d) eating disorders
- 8) What did Australia's leader urge children to learn?
  - a) coding
  - b) a musical instrument
  - c) English
  - d) a lesson
- 9) How will many children feel without access to social media?
  - a) good
  - b) lonelier
  - c) healthier
  - d) free
- 10) Who is Australia being sued by because of the social media ban?
  - a) two 15-year-olds
  - b) social media sites
  - c) parents
  - d) teachers

# ROLE PLAY

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

## **Role A – Facebook**

You think Facebook is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): TikTok, YouTube or X.

## **Role B – TikTok**

You think TikTok is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Facebook, YouTube or X.

## **Role C – YouTube**

You think YouTube is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): TikTok, Facebook or X.

## **Role D – X**

You think X is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): TikTok, YouTube or Facebook.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'teenager' and 'ban'.

<b>teenager</b>	<b>ban</b>

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• big</li><li>• open</li><li>• make sure</li><li>• fine</li><li>• methods</li><li>• upload</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• young</li><li>• information</li><li>• things</li><li>• message</li><li>• two</li><li>• right</li></ul>
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# SOCIAL MEDIA BANS SURVEY

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

# SOCIAL MEDIA BANS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'social media'?
3. What do you think of social media?
4. Should children be allowed to go on social media?
5. Have you had any bad experiences on social media?
6. Social media CEOs do not allow their children on social media. Why not?
7. What are the best social media sites?
8. What do you think of pre-social media communication?
9. How well will social media companies make sure the ban works?
10. Should children socialize in person rather than via their phone?

*Teens in Australia banned from social media – 11th December 2025*  
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# SOCIAL MEDIA BANS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'ban'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What harm might social media do to a 10-year-old?
15. How can sites reduce levels of misogyny on social media?
16. What do you think of non-stop photos of 'perfect bodies' online?
17. How do we get children to spend quality face-to-face time with people?
18. Is social media good to fight loneliness?
19. Should children have the 'right to free communication'?
20. What questions would you like to ask social media CEOs?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

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

A big change has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the social media world. Australia has banned children under the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot open accounts with sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of these social media sites to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines could be as much as \$32.9 million. The companies said they would use (6) \_\_\_\_\_ methods to check the age of their users. New users will have to upload identification and scan their faces.

Australia's Prime Minister said he introduced the ban because social media was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ young minds. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful content. This included information about misogyny, violence, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ disorders, and suicide. He advised children (9) \_\_\_\_\_ do different things instead, like starting a new sport or learning to play a musical instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality time with your friends and your family, face (10) \_\_\_\_\_ face." Many children said they would now be (11) \_\_\_\_\_ without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing Australia's government. They say their "right to free communication" has been taken (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |                |                  |                 |                    |
|-----|----------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | (a) happening  | (b) happened     | (c) happen      | (d) happens        |
| 2.  | (a) old        | (b) age          | (c) years       | (d) year           |
| 3.  | (a) responsive | (b) response     | (c) responsible | (d) responsibility |
| 4.  | (a) take       | (b) make         | (c) do          | (d) give           |
| 5.  | (a) five       | (b) file         | (c) fire        | (d) fine           |
| 6.  | (a) difference | (b) differential | (c) different   | (d) differently    |
| 7.  | (a) harming    | (b) harmful      | (c) harm        | (d) harms          |
| 8.  | (a) ate        | (b) eaten        | (c) eating      | (d) eats           |
| 9.  | (a) by         | (b) at           | (c) of          | (d) to             |
| 10. | (a) to         | (b) at           | (c) by          | (d) of             |
| 11. | (a) lonelier   | (b) loneliness   | (c) loner       | (d) lone           |
| 12. | (a) away       | (b) up           | (c) in          | (d) on             |



# SPELLING

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

## Paragraph 1

1. the under-16s cannot open atscncou
2. It is now the nrbssptiiloey of these
3. Australia's menveongtr
4. allowed children to csecas their sites
5. they would use different dmstheo to check
6. New users will have to upload niotianfeciidt

## Paragraph 2

7. he cuddteiron the ban
8. This icdduenl information
9. eating issdordre
10. learning to play a musical iusntentmr
11. Spend auiyltq time with your friends
12. their right to free nucacionmmtoi

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( **1** ) A big change has happened in the social media world. Australia has banned children under
- ( ) accounts with sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the responsibility
- ( ) age of their users. New users will have to upload identification and scan their faces.
- ( ) and suicide. He advised children to do different things instead, like starting a new sport or learning to play a musical
- ( ) as \$32.9 million. The companies said they would use different methods to check the
- ( ) at harmful content. This included information about misogyny, violence, eating disorders,
- ( ) Australia's government. They say their "right to free communication" has been taken away.
- ( ) Australia's Prime Minister said he introduced the ban because social media was harming young
- ( ) instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality time with your friends and your family, face
- ( ) minds. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked
- ( ) of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government
- ( ) said it would fine the companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines could be as much
- ( ) the age of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot open
- ( ) to face." Many children said they would now be lonelier without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. big A has change in happened media social .
2. It children banned the under of age 16 .
3. 16s Under- open cannot with accounts like sites Facebook .
4. the It's of responsibility social these sites media .
5. They'd different use to methods the check ages .
6. Prime Australia's said Minister introduced he ban the .
7. The aged children 15-10 used who media social .
8. This information included misogyny about eating and disorders .
9. children Many they said now would lonelier be .
10. Their to right communication free been has removed .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

A big *challenge / change* has happened in the social media world. Australia has banned children under the *age / ages* of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot *open / opening* accounts with sites *like / likes* Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the *responsibility / responsible* of these social media sites to make sure all of *them / their* users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would *sure / fine* the companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines could be as *much / many* as \$32.9 million. The companies said they would use different *methods / method* to check the age of their users. New users will *have / must* to upload identification and scan their faces.

Australia's Prime Minister said he introduced the ban *because / that* social media was harming young *minds / mind*. He said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked *at / in* harmful content. This included information about misogyny, *violent / violence*, eating disorders, and suicide. He advised children to do *difference / different* things instead, like starting a new sport or learning *for / to* play a musical instrument. His message to children was: "Spend *qualify / quality* time with your friends and your family, *face / eyes* to face." Many children said they would now be lonelier without social media. Two 15-year-olds are *using / suing* Australia's government. They say their "right to free communication" *has / have* been taken away.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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

\_ b\_g ch\_ng\_ h\_s h\_pp\_n\_d \_n th\_ s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_  
w\_rld. \_\_str\_l\_\_ h\_s b\_nn\_d ch\_ldr\_n \_nd\_r th\_ \_g\_ \_f  
16 fr\_m j\_\_n\_ng m\_ny s\_c\_\_l n\_tw\_rks. N\_w l\_ws s\_y  
th\_ \_nd\_r-16s c\_nn\_t \_p\_n \_cc\_\_nts w\_th s\_t\_s l\_k\_  
F\_c\_b\_\_k, \_nst\_gr\_m, R\_dd\_t, Sn\_pch\_t, Thr\_\_ds,  
T\_kT\_k, X, \_nd Y\_\_T\_b\_. \_t \_s n\_w th\_ r\_sp\_ns\_b\_l\_ty  
\_f th\_s\_ s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ s\_t\_s t\_ m\_k\_ s\_r\_ \_ll \_f  
th\_\_r \_s\_rs \_r\_ \_g\_d 16 \_r \_b\_v\_. \_\_str\_l\_\_'s  
g\_v\_rnm\_nt s\_\_d \_t w\_\_ld f\_n\_ th\_ c\_mp\_n\_\_s \_f th\_y  
\_ll\_w\_d ch\_ldr\_n t\_ \_cc\_ss th\_\_r s\_t\_s. Th\_ f\_n\_s  
c\_\_ld b\_ \_s m\_ch \_s \$32.9 m\_ll\_\_n. Th\_ c\_mp\_n\_\_s  
s\_\_d th\_y w\_\_ld \_s\_ d\_ff\_r\_nt m\_th\_ds t\_ ch\_ck th\_  
\_g\_ \_f th\_\_r \_s\_rs. N\_w \_s\_rs w\_ll h\_v\_ t\_ \_pl\_\_d  
\_d\_nt\_f\_c\_t\_\_n \_nd sc\_n th\_\_r f\_c\_s.

\_\_str\_l\_\_'s Pr\_m\_ M\_n\_st\_r s\_\_d h\_ \_ntr\_d\_c\_d th\_ b\_n  
b\_c\_\_s\_ s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ w\_s h\_rm\_ng y\_\_ng m\_nds. H\_  
s\_\_d \_ st\_dy sh\_w\_d th\_t 70 p\_r c\_nt \_f ch\_ldr\_n  
\_g\_d 10-15 wh\_ \_s\_d s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ l\_\_k\_d \_t h\_rmf\_l  
c\_nt\_nt. Th\_s \_ncl\_d\_d \_nf\_rmt\_\_n \_b\_\_t m\_s\_gyny,  
v\_\_l\_nc\_, \_\_t\_ng d\_s\_rdrs, \_nd s\_\_c\_d\_. H\_ \_dv\_s\_d  
ch\_ldr\_n t\_ d\_ d\_ff\_r\_nt th\_ngs \_nst\_\_d, l\_k\_ st\_rt\_ng  
\_ n\_w sp\_rt \_r l\_\_rn\_ng t\_ pl\_y \_ m\_s\_c\_l  
\_nstr\_m\_nt. H\_s m\_ss\_g\_ t\_ ch\_ldr\_n w\_s: "Sp\_nd  
q\_\_l\_ty t\_m\_ w\_th y\_\_r fr\_\_nds \_nd y\_\_r f\_m\_ly, f\_c\_  
t\_ f\_c\_." M\_ny ch\_ldr\_n s\_\_d th\_y w\_\_ld n\_w b\_  
l\_n\_l\_\_r w\_th\_\_t s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_. Tw\_ 15-y\_\_r-lds \_r\_  
s\_\_ng \_\_str\_l\_\_'s g\_v\_rnm\_nt. Th\_y s\_y th\_\_r "r\_ght t\_  
fr\_\_ c\_mm\_n\_c\_t\_\_n" h\_s b\_\_n t\_k\_n \_w\_y.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

a big change has happened in the social media world australia has banned children under the age of 16 from joining many social networks new laws say the under16s cannot open accounts with sites like facebook instagram reddit snapchat threads tiktok x and youtube it is now the responsibility of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above australia's government said it would fine the companies if they allowed children to access their sites the fines could be as much as 329 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 he introduced the ban because social media was harming young minds he said a study showed that 70 per cent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful content this included information about misogyny violence eating disorders and suicide he advised children to do different things instead like starting a new sport or learning to play a musical instrument his message to children was spend quality time with your friends and your family face to face many children said they would now be lonelier without social media two 15-year-olds are suing australia's government they say their right to free communication has been taken away

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

A big change has happened in the social media world. Australia has banned children under the age of 16 from joining many social networks. New laws say the under-16s cannot open accounts with sites like Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube. It is now the responsibility of these social media sites to make sure all of their users are aged 16 or above. Australia's government said it would fine the companies if they allowed children to access their sites. The fines could be as much as \$32.9 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 he introduced the ban because social media was harming young minds. He said a study showed that 70 percent of children aged 10-15 who used social media looked at harmful content. This included information about misogyny, violence, eating disorders, and suicide. He advised children to do different things instead, like starting a newsport or learning to play a musical instrument. His message to children was: "Spend quality time with your friends and your family, face to face." Many children said they would now be lonely without social media. Two 15-year-olds are suing Australia's government. They say their "right to free communication" has been taken away.

## FREE WRITING

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

Write about **social media bans** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]



# ACADEMIC WRITING

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

No one under 16 should be allowed on social media. Discuss.

[illegible]

# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. SOCIAL MEDIA:** Make a poster about social media. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. TEEN BAN:** Write a magazine article about banning social media for all teens. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on social media bans. Ask him/her three questions about social media them. Give him/her three of your opinions on social media. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. b    2. e    3. a    4. c    5. d    6. g    7. f  
8. j    9. h    10. k    11. m    12. i    13. l    14. n

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 F    4 T    5 F    6 T    7 T    8 T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. In the social media world
2. Social media companies
3. Up to \$32.9 million
4. Check the age of users.
5. Their faces
6. Young minds
7. Eating disorders
8. A musical instrument
9. Lonelier
10. Two 15-year-olds

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. A big change has happened in social media.
2. It banned children under the age of 16.
3. Under-16s cannot open accounts with sites like Facebook.
4. It's the responsibility of these social media sites.
5. They'd use different methods to check the ages.
6. Australia's Prime Minister said he introduced the ban.
7. The children aged 10-15 who used social media.
8. This included information about misogyny and eating disorders.
9. Many children said they would now be lonelier.
10. Their right to free communication has been removed.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)