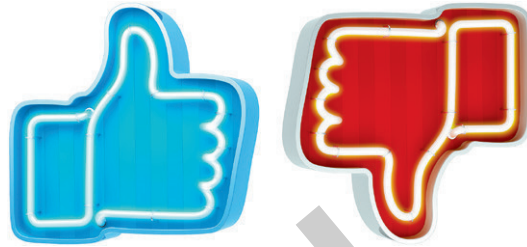# Social networks – love them or hate them
Freie Meinungsäußerung trainieren (Klassen 9/10)

Ein Beitrag von Martin Bastkowski

Die Materialien

M 1:   Social networks – word cloud

M 2:   Social networks – images

M 3:   Social networks – my personal diary

M 4:   Social networks – a crossword puzzle

M 5:   Milling around – social networks in my life

M 6:   Don't say the word – a guessing game

M 7:   Pros and cons of social networks – partner puzzle

M 8:   Do you agree with me? – Giving an opinion

M 9:   What is typical of a talk show? – Brainstorming

M 10: Our own talk show – role cards

M 11: Feedback sheet for students

M 12: Social media and manipulation – online research

ZM_10_feedback sheet for teachers

© Thinkstock/iStock

Love them or hate them – die Meinungen über soziale Netzwerke gehen weit auseinander. Können Ihre Schüler die Vorzüge und Nachteile sozialer Medien erkennen und sachlich diskutieren? Der Aufbau dieser Fähigkeit ist Schwerpunkt dieser Unterrichtseinheit.

Das Wichtigste auf einen Blick

Kompetenzen:

– die eigene Meinung auf Englisch ausdrücken

– sachlich in der Fremdsprache argumentieren

– die Sprechfähigkeit anhand einer Diskussion trainieren

– den eigenen Medienkonsum kritisch hinterfragen

Dauer:
1–5 Schulstunden
(je nach Materialauswahl)

Niveau:
Klasse 9/10

Einbettung:
Lighthouse 6, Unit 2: Take a stand

Red Line 5, Unit 2: My idea of fun

English G 21, Unit 3: Teen World

netzwerk lernen

zur Vollversion

M 2

Social networks – images

Let's talk about these images!

Tasks

1. Take notes on what you see in these pictures.

Photos: © Thinkstock/iStock

**How to describe pictures –
the 4-step method**

1. Introduction:

"The picture shows …"

2. Description of the photo:

"In the foreground/background you can see ..."; "In the middle/centre there are ..."; "At the top/At the bottom there is ..."; "On the left/right there are ..."; "Behind/In front of ... you can see ..."

3. What the people in the picture are doing:

"A girl is holding a tablet in her hand."

4. My opinion about the picture:

"I think the picture stands for ...";
"The atmosphere is peaceful/sad ...";
"I like/don't like the picture because ..."; "It makes me think of/feel …";/
It reminds me of ..."

2. Describe the pictures to a partner. Use the 4-step method and your notes.

3. Find a suitable headline for each picture and write it on the line above each photo.

M 8

Do you agree with me? – Giving an opinion

Give comments on different statements!

Task

Choose two of the following statements. What do you think of them? Give your opinion and make clear why you agree or disagree with these statements.

> Social networks are only for people who don't have any real friends.

> I can't live without social networks anymore.

> Social networks show too much of our private lives (hobbies, relationship status, age, …).

> Social networks destroy real situations where you could talk to your friends.

> Social networks help to be up-to-date, to stay in touch with friends and to contact them very easily.

Help box (agreeing)

- I agree with this statement because …
- I'm of the same opinion because …
- I have come to the same conclusion.
- I think so, too.

Help box (disagreeing)

- I don't agree with this view because …
- I disagree with this statement because …
- I see things differently, …
- I take a different view because …

M 10

Our own talk show – role cards

Have a look and get to know your role card!

Tasks

1. *Read your role card.*

2. *Think of how you would act out your role. Find arguments for your position and take notes.*

3. *Get ready to present your arguments in the talk show: Practise speaking freely and bringing forward your arguments.*

You are Ben, 16
(+)

you are a pupil at a school

you live in a lonely village

you need social networks to stay in contact with friends

You are Joy, 44
(+)

you work a lot around the world

you meet many new clients in different countries

you need social networks to stay in contact and for work

You are Kathy, 21
(–)

you totally avoid social networks

when you were 17, you got cyber-bullied at school

you received threats and had to leave school

You are Jim, 30
(–)

you work at a data protection company

you are worried about social networks in terms of publishing personal pictures, crime and pedophilia

You are Susan, 37
(H)

you are the host of the show and have to introduce the guests

you have to keep the discussion going and involve everybody

you have to sum up the main arguments at the end

Write your notes here:

69 RAAbits Realschule Englisch

zur Vollversion

M 12

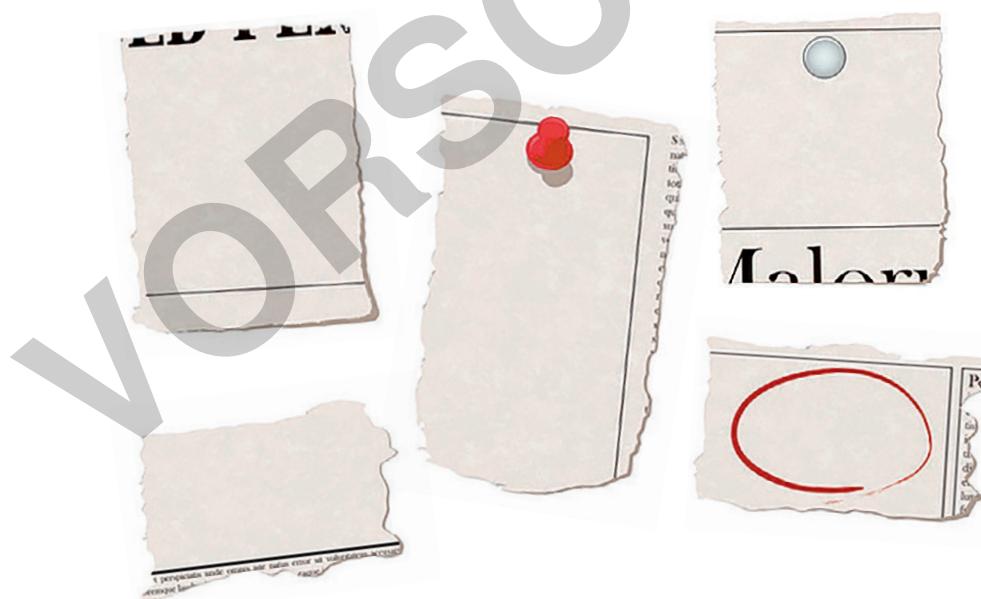# Social media and manipulation – online research

Social media influences our daily lives, but does it manipulate us?

In late March 2018, a huge *Facebook* scandal hit the headlines[1]. *Facebook* data of up to 87 million users was allegedly[2] shared with the company *Cambridge Analytica*. *The New York Times*, *The Observer of London* and *The Guardian* uncovered the data leak[3]. *Cambridge Analytica* is a British political consulting firm that used the improperly[4] obtained[5] data from *Facebook* to create profiles of American voters[6]. The firm is said to have sold these psychological voter profiles to political campaigns in the United States and is believed to have influenced the 2016 presidential election[7].

1 **to hit the headlines:** Schlagzeilen machen – 2 **allegedly:** angeblich – 3 **leak:** das Leck – 4 **improperly:** auf unerlaubte Weise – 5 **to obtain sth.:** etw. erhalten – 6 **voter:** der/die Wähler/in – 7 **presidential election:** die Präsidentschaftswahl

Tasks

1. *Read the introductory text. What have you heard about the Facebook scandal in the media? Write down bullet points.*

2. *Research online and find out more information about the data scandal and complete the subtasks a) and b). First, think about which sources on the Internet are reliable and which are not. Then, start your research using reliable sources in English. If the texts you find are too difficult, switch to German sources.*

   a) *Which headlines did you find about the Facebook data scandal? Fill in the snippets.*

   b) *Create a mind map with the information you researched about the data scandal. Compare your results with a partner.*

3. *Answer the following questions in full sentences:*
   - *Have you ever thought that social network companies could steal or sell your data to other companies?*
   - *Why is it dangerous when social networks leak users' data to other companies? Explain.*
   - *Which other data scandals that were in the media do you remember? Name them.*
   - *Do social networks manipulate people? Discuss*

zur Vollversion