

Listening I – A radio interview

Task 1

Which questions would you ask your favourite band if you could? Write at least five questions into your exercise book.

Task 2 "Track 3"

Listen carefully to the radio interview of the newcomer band "The Next Generation". Which questions came up during the interview?



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Task 3 "Track 3"

Compare your solutions with a partner. Now listen to the interview again.

Task 4

Answer the following questions and write them into your exercise book.

1. Which challenges does Justin mention for the next generation during the interview?
2. Why is the band's song called "Internet Generation" and what does it criticise?
3. How did Justin reply to Sabrina's question?
4. What do you think about Justin's answer? Was it impolite or understandable (5–7 sentences)?

Task 5 "Track 3"

Compare your solutions with a partner. Now listen to the interview again.

Reading I – Social networking sites

Task 1

Read the text. Use a dictionary if necessary.

Almost every person uses social networking sites. No matter whether they are students or politicians. Moreover, a lot of famous companies use social networking sites as well.

But what about you? Do you use any social networking sites?

The usage of these sites has a lot of advantages and disadvantages and it is important to be aware of both sides.

Most people mention that they love social networking sites because they can communicate with their friends and family members all over the world. It is also a huge benefit that you can express yourself by uploading photos, sharing songs or posting funny things.



Especially teenagers love to express their feelings through social networking sites. It is important to them to have many friends on their friends list. Besides, it is easy to make new friends because you may have liked the same picture or joined the same group as other people.

But this is a huge disadvantage at the same time because more and more people change their way of communication. They stop calling and meeting their friends. Instead, they write short messages or contact them via their online profiles. The worst thing is that a lot of users spend the whole day in front of their screens and avoid face to face conversations in real life.

Furthermore, the rates of so called “Cyberbullying” is increasing every day. Teenagers bully each other and do cruel things to one another. A further disadvantage is that a lot of people do not think about the pictures and posts they like or share. This might have a negative influence on their lives when it comes to job interviews etc. Jealousy is also a major problem and causes several conflicts in relationships.

At the end of the day, there are advantages as well as disadvantages to social networking sites, but the most important thing is to keep in mind that your real life takes place outside of the internet.

Task 2

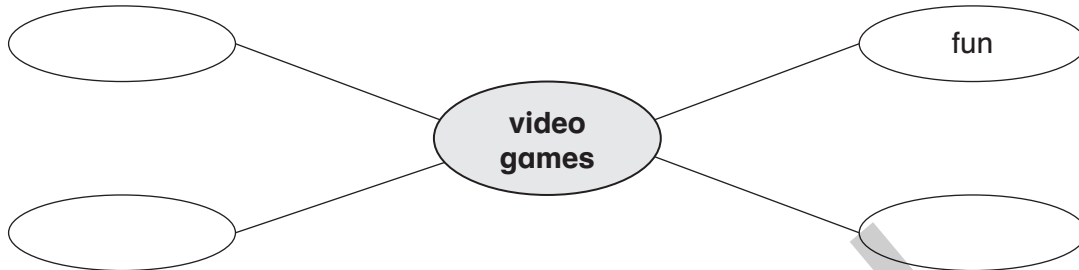
Complete the following grid. Write your results into your exercise book.

Social networking sites	
advantages	disadvantages
✓	✓
✓	✓

Reading II – Do video games make children violent?

Task 1

Work with a partner. What comes into your mind when you hear the term “video games”? Write your ideas into your exercise book. Use the structure below.



Task 2

Read the following article. Use a dictionary if necessary.

Do video games make children violent?

Many scientists and parents wonder whether there is a link between video games and violent behavior in the future. The problem is that people who were running amok have often been known to be former computer game enthusiasts. They loved to kill and assault people in their games. Therefore, the following question came up: Do video games make children violent?

According to “The Guardian”, especially male teenagers between 10–14 seem to be more interested in violent games, but this does not mean that every one of them will become a dangerous and aggressive person in the future.

This controversial discussion is the topic of many different studies with different conclusions: Some point out that there is a link between violent games and violent behavior. Others say that there is no link at all, but some players might already have a disposition for violence and aggression. Still, this is not researched well enough, yet. So, the question cannot be answered today and many open questions on the topic remain, e.g.: Who should decide



which games can cause future aggressions? And what about TV shows and movies? Should we try to forbid violent games and movies or would it be better to talk about them at school and at home by pointing out that there is always a virtual world and a real world? This could help to make children realise that they should never transfer their virtual world into their real lives.

The Guardian ends its article with the following statement, which shows that we still have a lot to figure out: “Do videogames make your kids violent? No one knows and, by now, we really should have a better answer than that.”

Writing I – How to write a comment



How to write:

A written **comment** expresses your personal opinion on a certain topic or issue.

A comment usually includes the following parts:

1. Presentation of the topic
2. Statement of opinions
3. Support for your opinions
4. Conclusion

What to write:

- Brainstorm and develop an opinion on the topic.
- Find facts, examples etc. to support your opinion.
- Put your arguments into a logical order.
- Bring your statement to a good conclusion.



Phrase bank:

- The topic of the text is.../The main idea of the text is...
- The text deals with.../The text is about.../The main idea expressed in the text is...
- The author uses the following argument(s)...
- The author comes to the conclusion that...
- I agree/do not agree with...
- In my opinion...
- I am convinced of...

Task

Choose one of the following topics and write a comment on it.

1. The usage of tablets during lessons in German schools
2. Access to social networking sites (e.g. Facebook®) at the age of 12
3. Grading teachers and their lessons

Internet research – How to create a good commercial



Commercials serve as an eye catcher and try to convince a viewer or reader to buy new products. They mostly occur during radio or TV shows and their major aim is to make money. Companies must pay a lot of money to television shows or to radio stations for showing their commercials. To take a single example, a commercial of 30 seconds during the American Super Bowl can cost 4.5–8 million US-Dollars.

To create a convincing commercial, it is important to follow these steps:

1. Choose a product and a particular target group.
2. Decide, if your commercial should be funny, dramatic or thrilling etc.
3. Think of a good text, story or dialogue that convinces the viewer/hearer to buy the product.
4. Include a phrase of action e.g. “Buy now!”.
5. Your commercial should end with a so-called catch phrase.
6. End your blog with a piece of advice or future prospect.

Task 1

Do research on commercials on the internet and take notes. Which commercials do you like or dislike? Which catch phrase did they use, what was the story line and did the commercial focus on a particular target group?

Commercial 1:

Commercial 2:

Commercial 3:

Task 2

Work with a partner and talk about your notes.

Mediation and internet research – Music

Task 1

Your younger sister or brother came into your room while you were listening to your favourite English song. Now, he or she would like to know what your favourite song is about in German. Unfortunately, his or her English language skills are not as good as yours. So, he/she asks you to write it down on a note because he/she would like to listen to the song again while reading your note.

Choose an English song and tell your younger brother/sister what the song is about.

Start with: Hi (*name of your brother/sister*), mein Lieblingslied heißt ... und es geht um ...
In der ersten Strophe ...



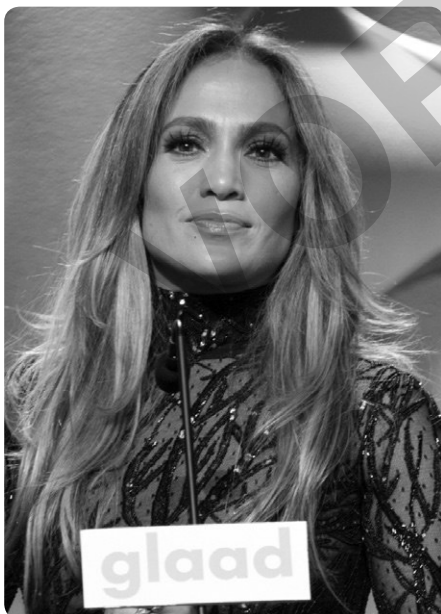
Task 2

Why do you like this song? When do you normally listen to it? Name reasons and write them into your exercise book (max. 50 words).

Task 3

What do you know about the band or the singer? Do research on his/her life and career and take down a timeline into your exercise book. The following example might help you:

Timeline of Jennifer Lopez's career



Task 4

Work with a partner and tell him/her everything you know about your singer/band by using your timeline. Then, take turns.