

Lesson Plan:

The role of social media in society

LEVEL Intermediate–Advanced (B2-C2)	TIME 60–90 minutes
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Skills Focus

Speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary, writing

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Discuss the impact of social media on society using targeted vocabulary.
- Express opinions and debate respectfully.
- Analyze short readings or video content on social media.
- Write a short opinion paragraph or essay.

Materials Needed

- Whiteboard/slides
- Handouts or digital access to vocabulary & discussion questions
- A short article or video (e.g., TED-Ed or BBC Learning English clip)
- Worksheet with writing prompt

Lesson Outline

1. Warm-Up (10 minutes)

Activity: Social Media Survey

Ask students:

- "How many social media platforms do you use?"
- "What do you use them for?"
- "How many hours a day do you spend on social media?"

Create a quick tally on the board and discuss patterns.

2. Vocabulary Building (10-15 minutes)

Target Vocabulary (examples):

- Algorithm
- Echo chamber
- Misinformation
- Digital footprint
- Influencer
- Viral
- Engagement
- Cancel culture

Activity: Matching definitions, using in sentences, or group discussion with vocabulary cards.

3. Reading or Video Analysis (15-20 minutes)

Option A: Reading

- Use an article like "How Social Media is Changing the Way We Think" (BBC, The Guardian, etc.)
- Students skim and then answer comprehension questions.

Option B: Video

- Show a short video (e.g., TED-Ed: "How social media affects our brains").
- Discuss key ideas, note vocabulary in use, and summarize.

4. Group Discussion & Debate (15-20 minutes)

Activity: Role-based debate or open discussion

Prompts:

- "Is social media more harmful or helpful to society?"
- "Should social media companies regulate content more strictly?"
- "How does social media affect our mental health?"

Debate roles: Tech CEO, concerned parent, teenager, psychologist, teacher, etc.

5. Writing Task (15-20 minutes)

Prompt Options:

- "Do you think social media is a positive or negative force in your society? Explain with examples."
- "What should schools teach about social media use?"

- Students write a paragraph or a short opinion essay.

6. Wrap-Up (5 minutes)

- Recap vocabulary learned.
- Ask for one takeaway from each student.
- Optional homework: Students write a blog post or record a short podcast segment on the topic.