

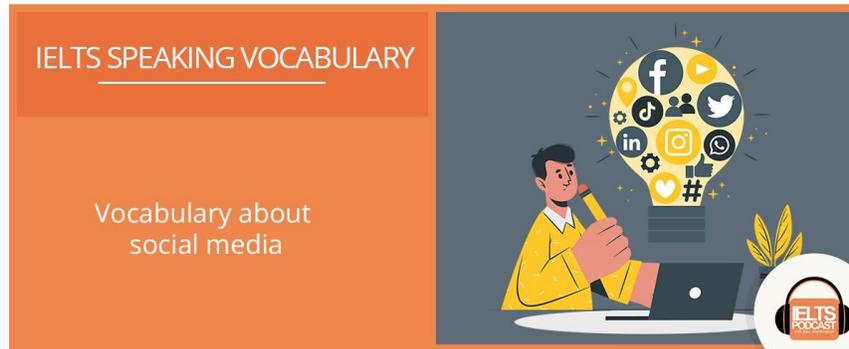
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INTRODUCTION

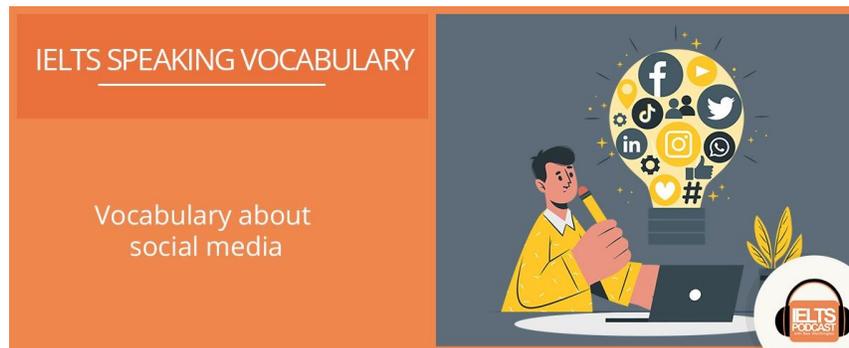
Ben: IELTS Speaking vocabulary. Hello there. In this tutorial, we're going to look at the topic of social media. We're going to look at a list of vocabulary terms and then we'll look at some model answers and of course, we're going to go through each part with some sample questions for Speaking Part 1. Speaking Part 2, we'll have a look at a sample cue card and then a model answer and then obviously, as well we'll get to Speaking Part 3 the more difficult questions.



And throughout the whole tutorial, I will be highlighting some of the vocabulary that will help you score high. Now, this is all topic-specific vocabulary that you'll definitely need to use if you're going to get a band 7 or higher.

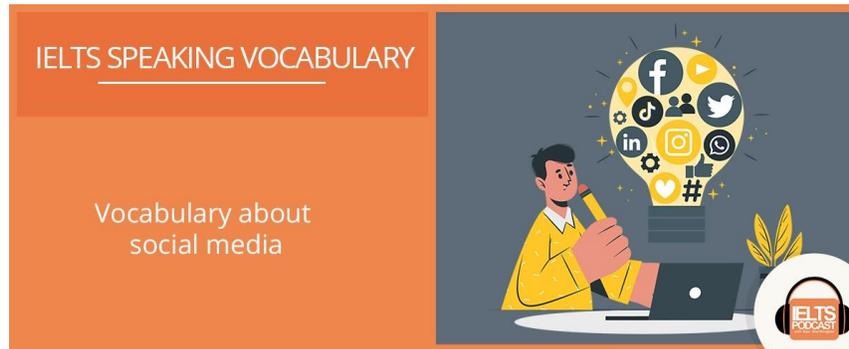
Now obviously, it's not a case of just using this vocabulary. You can't walk into the exam and go vlogger, blogger, meme, DM, emoji-- hell no. That's not the case. There are other criteria such as your pronunciation, your task response, your fluency, your accuracy, but today, we're going to mainly focus on the vocabulary part,

Now, just before we get started, social media is a popular topic and I think it's a popular topic because it's pretty much everywhere nowadays and the examiners obviously they are influenced by everyday events. So, if they are constantly reading and hearing in the news stories about social media, then it's going to get into their head and they'll start using it in the questions just like environmentalism. Climate change is a very common topic as well in both the writing and the speaking actually.



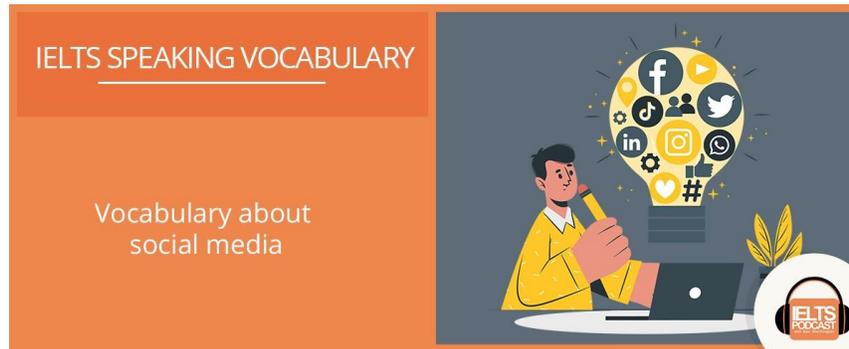
Now also, the good thing with social media is that it's-- no, it's not a good thing, but I think it's quite amusing some of the stories that happen because it's quite a fast-moving area and so you always get these like funny stories. I remember one story about a guy who was in a messenger group and he changed people's names and gave them all nicknames. And I think it was like a company group like all your work colleagues. And he changed all the names and he thought that it was anonymous and that only he could see them. And he changed one of them to something like McBulgepants or something like that.

Anyway, after a few days, the colleague contacted him and said hey, could you mind changing back my name to my normal name, please? And the guy who changed names obviously thought that it was all anonymous and it wasn't and it was quite embarrassing for him especially with it being his work colleagues. So, this is-- personally, I find it quite interesting and we're all-- not all of us actually, but I was going to say we're all getting to grips with it, but probably not nowadays.



Just one last thing. I think there are two interesting groups or three groups of people. There's like the digital natives that grew up with this and are much more adept. Then there's sort of like maybe the millennials or gen x. I'm not entirely sure, but these are the ones who sort of like got the crossover. So, when it came-- when Facebook and all of this and Instagram were introduced, they jumped straight into it. I wouldn't say they're natives, but the natives would be the ones who've had it all their life. They grew up and it was never new like my cousins, for example, who are about 15, 16. For them, YouTube has been around forever.

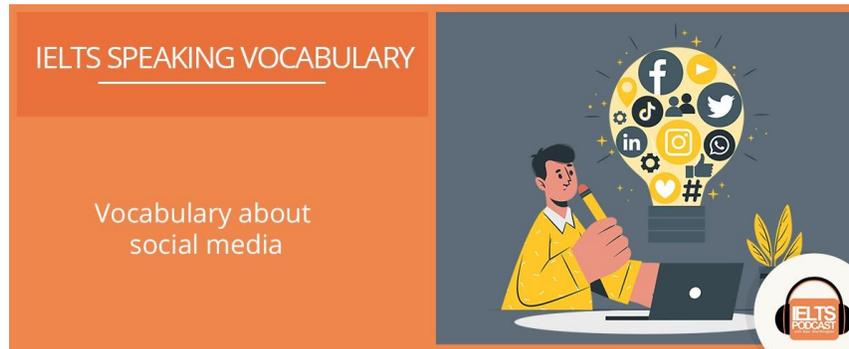
And then there's the middle group who saw it introduced and then there's the older group probably like our parents that kind of saw it introduced and then hesitantly got involved. In fact, I just heard another funny story about my girlfriend's stepdad who was in Facebook groups asking people how to build a house. And she says it was like a face palm moment. She was like oh no. This is not what Facebook groups are used for. But anyway, I think there are lots-- this is why it's quite an interesting topic for myself.



So, let's jump into it. First, I'll go through the vocabulary and this way, it'll make it easier for you to identify it once you hear it. So, we've got vloggers and influencers. Followers we all know. I'll just basically very quickly go through it. So, vloggers is a word I hate personally, but vloggers are people who blog but with videos online somewhere like YouTube or maybe even TikTok. I don't think they'd be called vloggers, but usually it's for YouTubers.

Then we've got this lovely species of people called influencers. They get a really bad name online I think, but we've got influencers. I think the Kardashians would come to mind. Personally, I find it irritating that I know all about the Kardashians, but I never wanted to. I've never ever researched them, but I know everything about them. It's just pushed in my face.

Anyway, then we've got followers; people who follow those influencers or the YouTube channels. And then DMing. It's like direct messaging. Memes. I love some good memes. Recently with all the royal family scandal, there has been a quality-- the level of quality of the output of the memes has been fantastic. I sent one to my friend and he replied. He's just like I

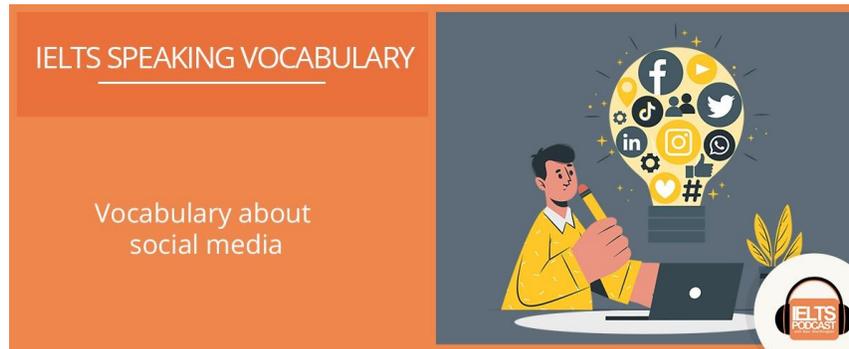


snorted out my coffee. He was drinking some coffee in the morning. He saw it and he just burst out laughing. So, memes; a very important part of today's society.

And then we've got viral videos. We've got scammers. I've got a friend actually in Spain who via Twitter he sent all his Ethereum-- the cryptocurrency-- to Elon Musk because he thought Elon Musk was messaging him he needed some help with some Ethereum wallet. Something like that. And he sent all his cryptocurrency to Elon Musk and then straight away afterwards I think he realized it was a scam. Anyway that's a scam if ever there was one.

Trolls. These are the nasty side. Trolls are people who just try and get a reaction out of people. And then haters who again, are just posting negativity online.

So, let's have a look. Question 1. Is social media popular in your country? Very much. This is a typical answer from a person called Philippe. Very much. Many people especially the young are trying to become vloggers and influencers. They try to accumulate as many followers as possible. Apparently, there are people in my country earning a considerable income from this.

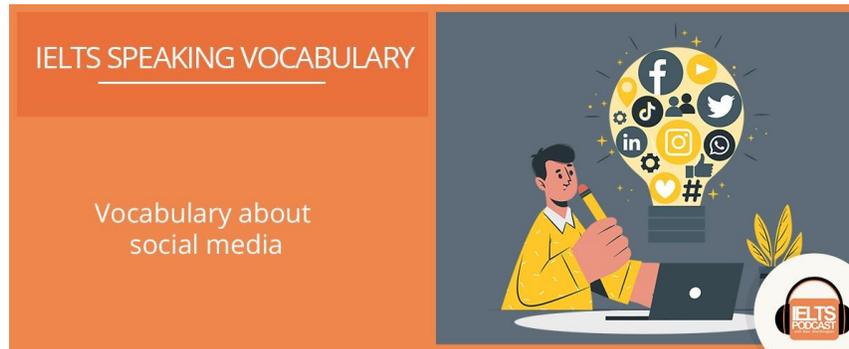


Great answer. We don't have to go into the more complex or like high-scoring answers here. Remember this is Part 1. The goal is just to get you relaxed, get you feeling comfortable so that you can show your ability in the most natural way possible.

Next. Do you use social media often? Model answer: I must confess that I am an avid user of social media. I am constantly DMing my friends the news memes and the latest viral videos. It's a way to connect with them even when we can't be together. Good.

Next one. Why do some people choose not to use social media? Well, the internet is still in many ways like the Wild West with very little legislation or controls. It is extremely easy to fall prey to scammers trying to trick you out of your money or even worse, your identity. Social media sites are full of trolls who only post in order to incite a reaction.

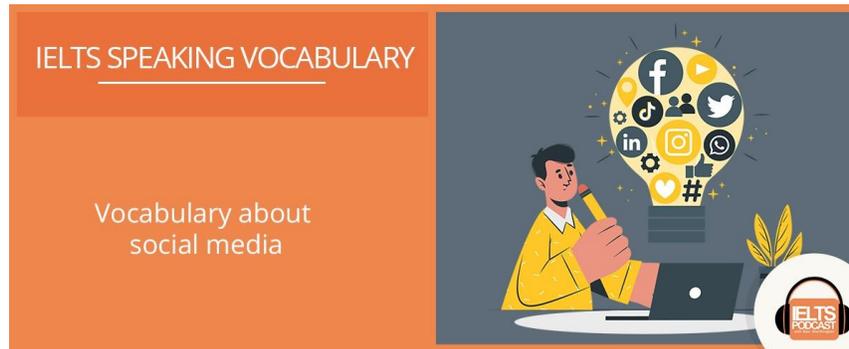
So, just a side note here. Now, you may think that okay, social media. Easy topic. I'm using social media every day and I can easily answer any of those questions I just heard. However, it's still a good exercise just to write out your answers to these types of questions because you



might find that you'll stumble across a topic that you feel passionately about or you might want to say oh, okay. I'd love to tell a story about that.

And writing it out will help you just structure it and help you discover the vocabulary that you will need to explain that story. And it's much better just taking that preparation time and just fleshing it all out on paper before the exam rather than stumbling through the story searching for the vocabulary on exam day.

So, just some questions that you could write out for yourself-- some answers. So, what you could write out. How ironical. I'm stumbling through my own speaking podcast. So, what I want to say is you could write out your answers to these questions. Is social media popular in your country? Do you use social media often? And why do some people choose not to use social media? Just straightforward questions, a couple of sentences, and you're good.

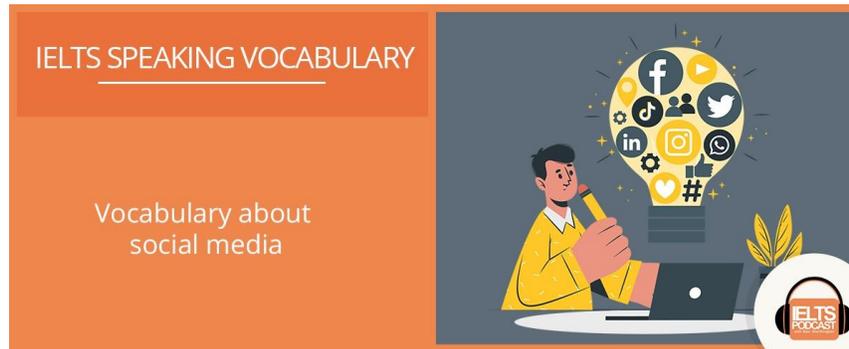


IELTS Speaking Part 2. Let's have a look. Let's work through a sample cue card. Talk about your favorite social media site or application. Say when you first used it, why you use it, how often you use it, and if you recommend it to others.

Now, in the Speaking Confidence Course we have, we have a structure for you to follow and it's basically where a very, very brief overview would be we're brainstorming for ideas, then we number those ideas, and we make sure that we're answering every single part of the cue card. Now, that's kind of like your preparation stage.

Now, after you've done that, you want to look for opportunities or even better while you're brainstorming, look for opportunities where you can use your language skills such as comparisons, superlatives, examples, and all these other features that we would do well to include in our answer.

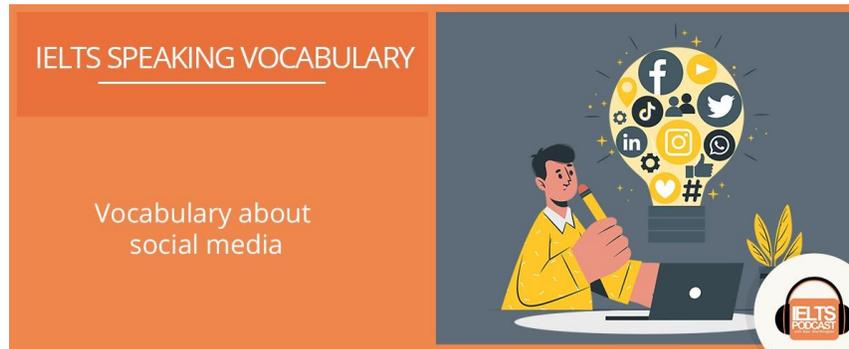
Now, I've got a model answer in front of me talking about snapchat and TikTok and personally, I don't use these. My girlfriend she likes TikTok, but she's hesitant about like fully



diving into it because it's another time sink. Time sink. So, we're just going to another channel for us to waste our energy. I'll give you my personal answer here. I'm going to talk about Reddit, okay?

So, my favorite social media site is Reddit. I use it because I'm not a digital native so to speak and I still like having anonymity. Oh, my word. I like having the privacy with Reddit because it's not connected really to my social media and I'm very much what's called a lurker where I don't post much. I just consume a fair amount and very seldom I might up vote it.

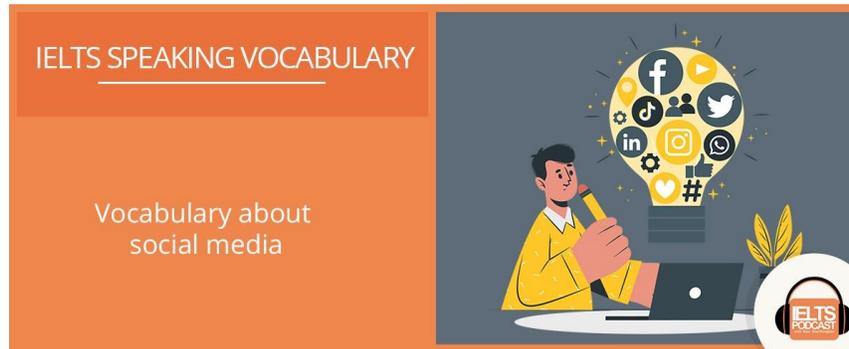
Anyway, I use it because I can set it to the feeds or the channels that I find interesting. So, I'm subscribed to such channels such as futurology, heavy seas, thorgasm; just these weird ones where thorgasm, for example, is just video clips of lightning strikes and then heavy seas is just like boats going through these heavy waters. So, I can get like a really personalized feed of just stuff that I find casually interesting. So, that's why I use it.



I would say I start my day with it. I'm not proud, but each morning while I have my morning cup of tea, I'll just start browsing through it and see some interesting posts about future technology or about lightning strikes and all of these other topics as well as football and cricket and some of the other topics I follow.

And sometimes I do recommend it to others. It is a little bit geeky, so I approach it with caution about who I recommend it to, but my geeky and nerdy friends we are all on Reddit and we all agree it's a time sink. And from time to time, we'll delete the app just to basically perform a digital detox. So, maybe for a few days just delete it and get back to normality-- get back to the real world. So, yes and that's my talk about my favorite social media site. Okay?

So, there we go. It's quite straightforward. I stumbled through some words like anonymity. I switched it to privacy. We've got followers, threads, subtopics, lots of different vocabulary in there. And I worked through the bullet points. I didn't really include some of the higher-level features like superlatives and the comparisons, but I did include plenty of examples and

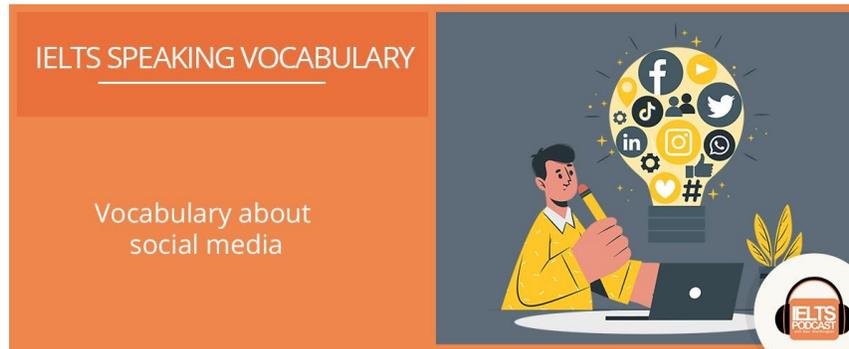


anecdotes which are quite helpful as well because anecdotes help you to-- they force you to kind of go into more detail and use more vocabulary and often, they give you the opportunity to use different tenses as well.

So, some other vocabulary we can use there. Again, influencers-- maybe if we did do the model talk about TikTok and Instagram, we could talk about influencers, DMs, filters, blocking, and catfishing and all the other lovely aspects of those apps.

IELTS Speaking Part 3. Now, this is a an ideal opportunity for anecdotes and your comparisons. So, I will try and use a few of these in the next answers. So, at what age are children generally allowed to use social media in your country?

Model answer: I think it really depends on which application the child is using. Some applications generally expose a child more to potential predators or cyber bullies. So, I think children should be at least 15 to use them. I have heard that predators create fake profiles in

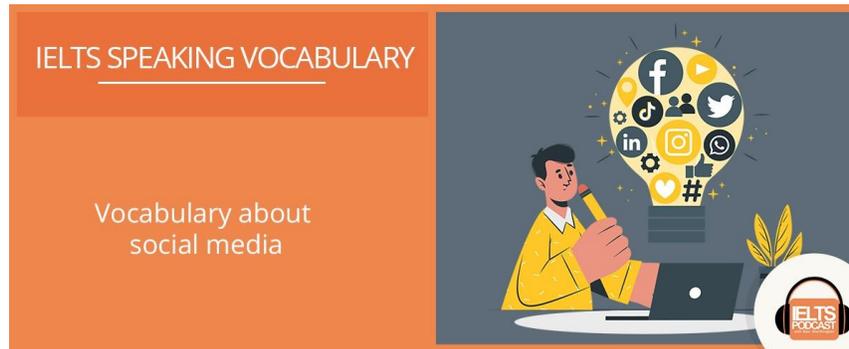


order to groom children. This is despicable and is one reason why parents should monitor their children's device.

Okay. Next answer. So, just the vocabulary there we've got cyberbully, grooming, fake profiles, and then monitor. All of this is useful vocabulary. Next question. Do you think people will use social media more or less in the future?

Now, hopefully you probably spotted that this question gives you an option. Now, if you've got an option, it's an ideal and appropriate opportunity to use the comparison. So, let's have a look at this model answer.

With so many things changing so quickly, it's rather difficult to predict what the future holds. A few years ago, we were sending emojis to one another. Now everywhere you look, people are dancing in front of their cameras for the world to see. So, I imagine our obsession with social media will continue although I hesitate to predict what form that will take.

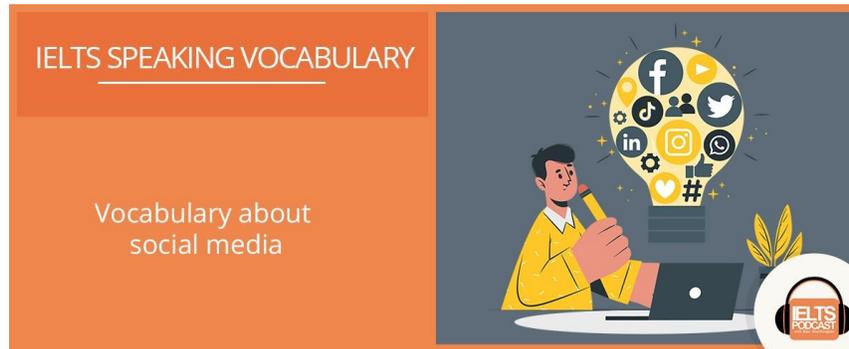


So, we've got a conjunction there with although which is very useful. Also especially useful for these when we've got an alternative in the question. They have like a mild comparison. They said it's rather difficult to predict. There's an implied comparison there. That's not a bad answer at all.

Why do you think bullying on the internet has become so widespread? Again cyber bullying is one of these topics that's in the media quite a lot nowadays and it's definitely worth reading up about it because it's quite an interesting topic.

So, again, it's one of these ones that you could definitely see in your writing task and in your speaking exam. So, just writing a few paragraphs about this. Do some research, do some summaries of some articles, get that vocabulary, get your ideas fleshed out on paper, organize your thoughts and you'll find that this topic will become immensely much easier. Let's see.

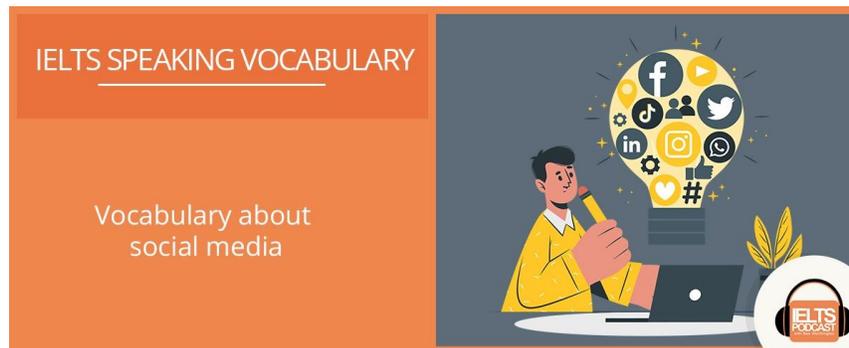
Why do you think bullying on the internet has become so widespread? I think cyberbullies and trolls generally feel that a shield of anonymity protects them. Many people on social media are



out there with dummy profiles harassing people at will and I guess like in all kinds of bullying, it makes the bully feel important or worthy. So, the bully gets the validation he or she needs without any of the repercussions that might occur if the bullying were to take place in the real world.

So, again, we've got some of that vocabulary we mentioned before: the cyberbullies, the trolls, anonymity. Also, we've got some extra vocabulary such as harassing and validation; all higher-level vocabulary terms that the examiner would expect to hear.

So, let's just go through a list before we finish up. We've got meme, anonymity, troll, viral, emoji, derogatory, sensor, harassed, catfishing, influencer, photoshop, filters, block, scam; quite a lot there. I didn't need to go into the definitions. I'm pretty certain we are all fairly aware with them maybe catfishing. That's where you create a false internet profile in order to deceive or scam someone.

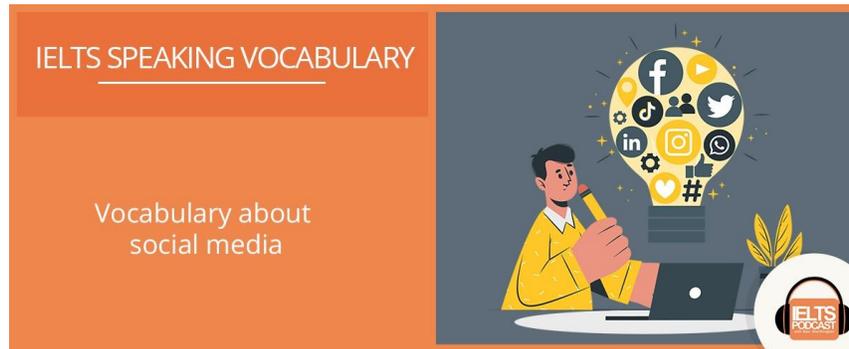


So, I think my friend which I mentioned earlier who sent a few hundred euros of Ethereum cryptocurrency to Elon Musk got catfished because the person asking for them was only pretending to be Elon Musk.

So, that's it from me today. If you need more help with your speaking, then have a look at the Speaking Confidence Course. Also, we've got the Speaking Feedback Service where it costs about \$9 and you can send in your model answer and we will give you feedback to help you improve just like we do with the writing correction.

By the way, we've got the \$5 essay correction back. If you go to the website, you'll see at the top of the page I've got the offer back. It's only temporary, so you might want to look into that. It's just a quick way-- easy inexpensive way to improve. Normally, these corrections are around \$19. So, it's a massive discount.

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IELTS SPEAKING VOCABULARY

Vocabulary about
social media

