

Social networks: love them or hate them – practise giving your personal opinion

Von Martin Bastkowski, Schellerten

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.

Die Lernenden beschäftigen sich anhand von zahlreichen kooperativen Aktivitäten mit Vor- und Nachteilen sozialer Netzwerke, kommen zu einem selbstkritischen Urteil und erkennen die Gefahren sozialer Medien. Am Ende der Unterrichtssequenz wenden sie die erarbeiteten Inhalte im Kontext an, indem sie verschiedene Rollen in einer Talkshow einnehmen. So trainieren sie die freie Meinungsäußerung anhand eines Themas aus ihrer unmittelbaren Lebenswelt.



© Thinkstock/iStock

VORANSICHT

Das Wichtigste auf einen Blick	
<p>Kompetenzen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – die eigene Meinung auf Englisch ausdrücken – sachlich in der Fremdsprache argumentieren – die Sprechfähigkeit anhand einer Diskussion trainieren – den eigenen Medienkonsum kritisch hinterfragen 	<p>Dauer</p> <p>1–5 Schulstunden (je nach Materialauswahl)</p> <p>Niveau</p> <p>A2–B1</p> <p>Ihr Plus</p> <p>mit Feedbackbogen zur Bewertung der Diskussion</p>

Materialübersicht

Baustein 1:	M 1	(Ws)	Social networks – word cloud
Baustein 2:	M 2	(Co)	Social networks – images
Baustein 3:	M 3	(Ws)	Social networks – my personal diary
Baustein 4:	M 4	(Ws)	Social networks – a crossword puzzle
Baustein 5:	M 5	(Ws)	Milling around – social networks in my life
Baustein 6:	M 6	(Ga)	Don't say the word – a guessing game
Baustein 7:	M 7	(Tx)	Pros and cons of social networks – partner puzzle
	M 8	(Ws)	Do you agree with me? – Giving an opinion
Baustein 8:	M 9	(Ws)	What is typical of a talk show? – Brainstorming
	M 10	(Ca)	Our own talk show – role cards
	M 11	(WS)	Feedback sheet for students
Baustein 9:	M 12	(Ws)	Social media and manipulation – online research

Bedeutung der Abkürzungen

Ca: Cards; Co: Colour page; Ga: Game; Tx: Text; Ws: Worksheet

Minimalplan: Sie können Sie kombinieren und kürzen

- Um Unterrichtszeit zu gewinnen, können die Verschriftlichung des **milling around (M 5)** sowie die schriftliche **Stellungnahme (M 8)** als Hausaufgabe erfolgen.
- Das **Brainstorming (M 9)** kann im Plenum statt in Einzelarbeit durchgeführt werden, um Zeit zu gewinnen.

Um die Sprechkompetenz zu schulen, setzen Sie folgende sprachaktivierende Materialien ein: **M 2, M 7** und **M 10**.

Zusatzmaterialien auf der CD 29 bzw. in der ZIP-Datei

M11_Zusatz_feedback_sheet (Feedback-Bogen für die Lehrkraft zur Bewertung der Diskussionsrunde)



Auf der **CD 29** RAAbits Englisch Berufliche Schulen bzw. in der ZIP-Datei finden Sie alle Materialien im **veränderbaren Word-Format** sowie Zusatzmaterialien.

Do you agree with me? – Giving an opinion

M 8

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, job ...).

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)

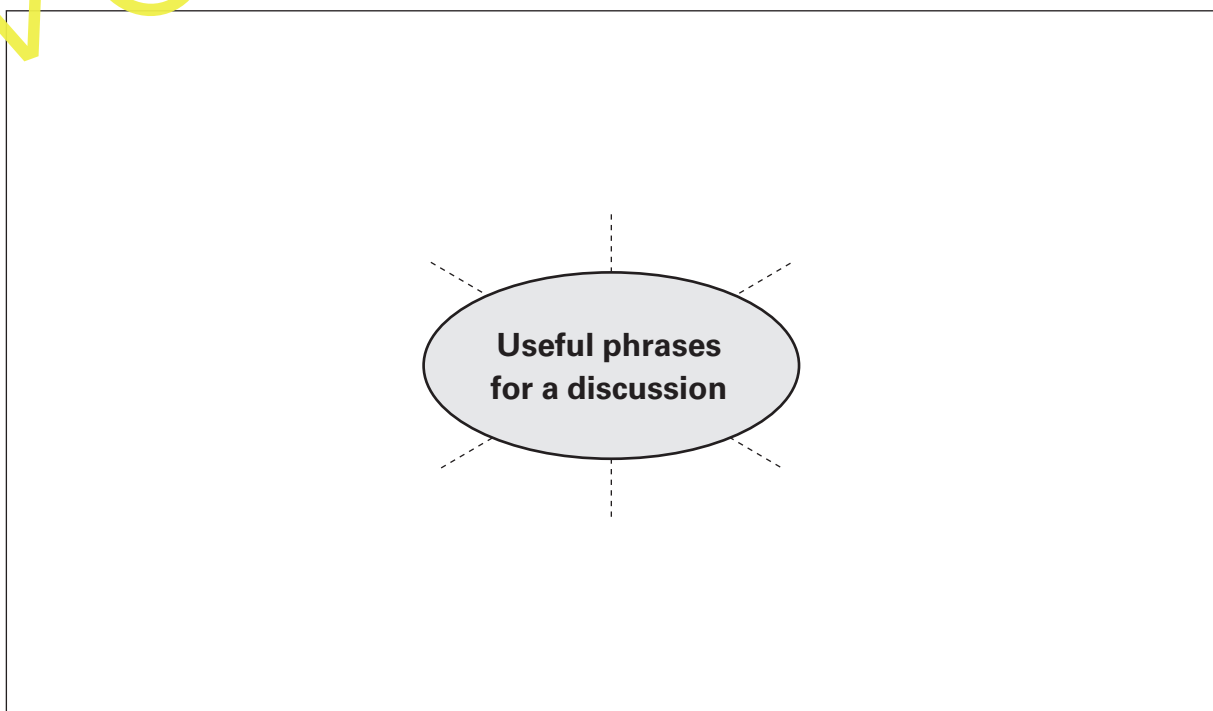
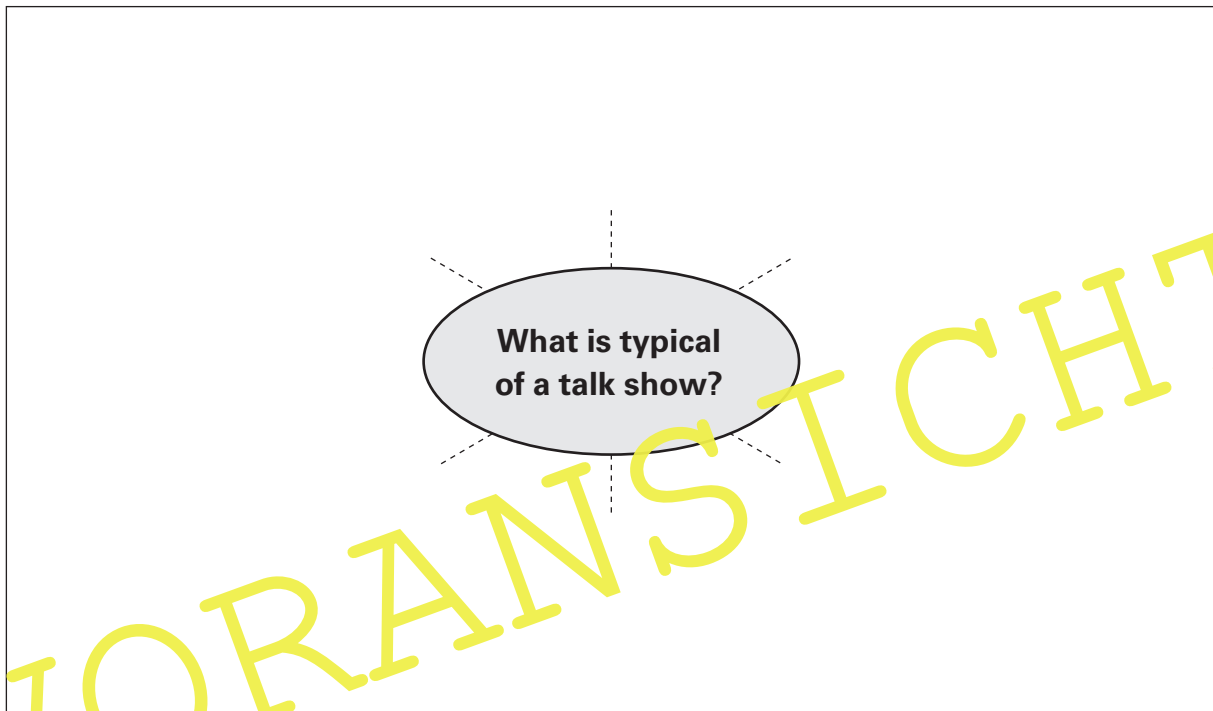
- I don't agree with this view because ...
- I disagree with this statement because ...
- I see things differently, ...
- I take a different view because ...

M 9 What's typical of a talk show? – Brainstorming

Let's host our own talk show about social networks!

Tasks

1. You are going to take part in a talk show where you take on different pro or con roles concerning social networks. In order to prepare for the talk show, do a brainstorming first and think about the following: What is typical of a talk show and which phrases can I use best during a discussion? Complete the two mindmaps.
2. Check your results with a partner and/or another group. Add new aspects.



Social media and manipulation – online research

M 12

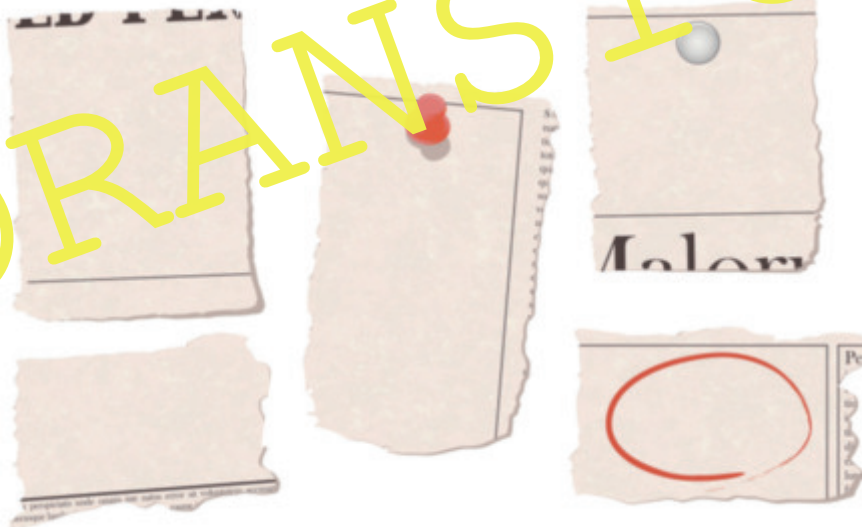
Social media influences our daily lives, but does it manipulate us?

In late March 2018, a huge *Facebook* scandal hit the headlines¹. *Facebook* data of up to 87 million users was allegedly² shared with the company *Cambridge Analytica*. *The New York Times*, *The Observer of London* and *The Guardian* uncovered the data leak³. *Cambridge Analytica* is a British political consulting firm that used the improperly⁴ obtained⁵ data from *Facebook* to create profiles of American voters⁶. 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 election⁷.

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 and give examples.