

Why it's time to stop filming strangers in public for social media thrills

Level 1: Elementary / Pre-Intermediate – Teacher's notes

Article summary: The article discusses how the use of phones to film people in public has become problematic.

Time: 60 minutes

Skills: Reading, Speaking, Writing

Language focus: Grammar – infinitives, irregular past forms, -ing forms

Materials needed: One copy of the worksheet per student

1. Warmer

- a. The purpose of this activity is to introduce the topic of the article. In pairs or groups, students should discuss the questions. Some of the vocabulary may be unfamiliar to them so be sure to pre-teach any difficult words.

2. Key words

- a. Ask students to do the exercise individually and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups.

Key:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. <i>strangers</i> | 6. <i>privacy</i> |
| 2. <i>in public</i> | 7. <i>pranks</i> |
| 3. <i>social media</i> | 8. <i>permission</i> |
| 4. <i>bullying</i> | 9. <i>vaping</i> |
| 5. <i>the law</i> | 10. <i>appropriate</i> |

3. Comprehension check

- a. Students should match each summary to the paragraph number in the article. They can do this on their own and then compare answers with a partner. Ask any fast finishers to underline the parts of the article that helped them match to the summary.

Key:

2, 7, 1, 6, 3, 4, 5

4. Key language

- a. The focus of the Key language section of this lesson is on word forms across different tenses. In this activity, the focus is on infinitives and past forms.

Key:

1. *caught*
2. *felt*
3. *went*
4. *saw*

- b. This activity gives students the opportunity to personalise some of the language they have covered.

5. Discussion

- a. In small groups, students should use each of the prompts to have discussions.

6. In your own words

- a. This task requires students to have access to the internet. They should spend some time searching for a video similar to what the writer describes. Be sure to remind them it needs to be appropriate for the classroom.
- b. They should share their videos and discuss whether they think they are funny or not, and if the videos were filmed to be mean or not.