

Did you ever post mean comments online?

Have you ever posted mean things online? Listen to three people talking about their experiences.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–j) with the vocabulary (1–10).

Vocabulary

1. a stranger
2. to feel guilty
3. an in-joke
4. to deal with something
5. shamefully
6. in person
7. to throw you off
8. to apologise
9. to trust
10. to hurt somebody's feelings

Definition

- a. in a way that makes you feel ashamed or embarrassed of something you've done
- b. someone you don't know
- c. a private joke or funny story that only certain people understand
- d. to upset somebody by saying bad things to them or about them
- e. to feel that something you did was wrong
- f. to take action to solve a problem
- g. actually being with someone, rather than communicating online
- h. to say sorry for something you've done
- i. to believe that someone is good and honest and won't harm you
- j. to make you suddenly feel surprised or confused

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Nick feels ashamed that he posted mean comments online when he was younger.	True	False
2. Nick only posted comments about people that he knew in real life.	True	False
3. De'Graft feels OK about all of the comments he has posted.	True	False
4. Katie upset someone by telling them that their art wasn't good.	True	False

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 5. Nick often posted private jokes or comments about school. | True | False |
| 6. When the person told Katie that she had hurt their feelings, Katie didn't care. | True | False |
| 7. Nick says you don't need to explain if the comment was only a joke. | True | False |
| 8. De'Graft says that sometimes things happen online that you don't expect. | True | False |

Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. that? said Should I have
2. for saying mean so guilty things. such I felt
3. how afterwards. you deal with things those It's all about
4. to may have upset. the person Apologise that you
5. you wouldn't Don't comment in person. say mean things that to someone
6. to trust. an adult You can you talk

Discussion

What would you do if you posted a comment online and then you realised it was mean and hurtful?

Answers

Preparation task

1. b
2. e
3. c
4. f
5. a
6. g
7. j
8. h
9. i
10. d

Task 1

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. True
5. True
6. False
7. False
8. True

Task 2

1. Should I have said that?
2. I felt so guilty for saying such mean things.
3. It's all about how you deal with those things afterwards.
4. Apologise to the person that you may have upset.
5. Don't comment mean things that you wouldn't say to someone in person.
6. You can talk to an adult you trust.