

How often do you take selfies? In this video, students at a UK secondary school share their views on selfies and self-image.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1..... a caption | a. a photo that you take of yourself with a phone |
| 2..... a pose | b. a tool for changing the natural appearance of a photo, such as by altering size, colour or adding effects |
| 3..... a selfie | c. words next to or on a picture that explain something about it |
| 4..... a filter | d. on the topic of |
| 5..... to be supposed to do something | e. a group of people in a country or area |
| 6..... spots | f. to be expected to or should do something |
| 7..... when it comes to | g. an action you do (e.g. smile, pull a funny face, make a V-sign) for a photo |
| 8..... society | h. small red marks on your face or body |

1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

- Courtney doesn't **use phones / use filters / take selfies** any more.
- Leo thinks that **normal / funny / his own** selfies are fine.
- Instead of using filters, Spencer prefers to **edit photos / take perfect photos / write captions** .
- Lucy recommends thinking carefully about **how you present yourself online / how to take selfies / how you use your phone at school** .
- Dominique thinks that **school / society / her family** puts pressure on people to look good.
- Courtney thinks that people should be more **creative / natural / attractive** in their photos.

2. Check your understanding: matching

Match the phrases with the correct explanation and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | | | |
|--------|--|----|--|
| 1..... | I feel like ... | a. | a past habit |
| 2..... | Yeah. | b. | a phrase with a meaning similar to 'I think ...' |
| 3..... | like (e.g. society has, like, made us, like, think that ...) | c. | a rhetorical question (i.e. a question to emphasise a point, and the speaker doesn't expect an answer to it) |
| 4..... | I'm not really a type of person to ... | d. | a word that helps the speaker fill a pause |
| 5..... | I used to love filters | e. | a phrase to stress that the speaker isn't interested in a particular activity |
| 6..... | Why can't you just be yourself and be natural? | f. | a word to show that you agree |

Discussion

Which speaker(s) do you agree and disagree with? Do you think selfies are just harmless fun, or could they have a negative effect on society?