

Unit 5:

Cyberbullying



A Warm-up

1. How would you define the word "cyberbullying"?
2. Which do you think is worse, traditional bullying or cyberbullying?
3. Do you think cyberbullying is a problem in your country?
4. What are the differences between cyberbullying and a simple online argument?

B Vocabulary

1. Match the words from the Academic Word List with their definitions.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| a) whereas | ___ explain |
| b) consequence (n) | ___ happens |
| c) define (v) | ___ leaving out |
| d) immigrants (n) | ___ possible |
| e) exclusion (n) | ___ *used as a statement to show how two things are different |
| f) occur (v) | ___ related to the body (not the mind) |
| g) potential (adj) | ___ people who move to a new country |
| h) physical (adj) | ___ the result of an action or situation; especially a bad result |

2. Learn the different uses of these phrasal verbs.

1. Match the meaning of **carry out** with its use in the example sentences:

- a) to do or complete something
- b) to act on (a promise, plan etc)

___ Are you going to carry out your promise?

___ The scientists carried out several experiments in the lab.

2. Choose a preposition to complete a phrasal verb that means *to join*:

away
on
off
part

Will you **take** _____ in the school festival next week?

3. Personalization

1. What are the consequences of not doing your homework?
2. How can you define a bully?
3. Do you usually take part in the school festival?
4. Have you ever been excluded from an activity you wanted to join?
5. Do you have any friends who are immigrants to Japan?

C While Reading

1. Fill in the blanks with the words from Vocabulary exercise 1.

2. Find the phrasal verb *carry out* in the text. What is its meaning in this article? _____

A New Menace



Bullies have long been a part of school life, and most adults probably have some memory of a bully during their school days. While some studies suggest that traditional forms of bullying are actually declining, social media has brought about a new problem: the cyberbully.

The Internet and mobile technology have changed the way bullying happens. _____ traditional bullying victims have been smaller or weaker than the bully, with cyberbullying, the _____ strength of the bully is no longer important. In addition, in the past bullies always had to be in the same place as their victims. But with cyberbullying, bullies can harass their victims 24 hours a day, and their victims can no longer escape abuse by simply going home and closing their door. This continuous abuse often causes more stress than traditional playground bullying.



Cyberbullying is often difficult to _____ because it happens in many ways. Besides sending harassing texts or emails, the following types of cyberbullying have become common in recent years: 1) **cyberstalking**: This involves a bully sending continuous unwanted messages to an individual. 2) _____: This is the act of intentionally leaving a person out from an online group. The group then leave mean comments and harass the person they have excluded. 3) **outing**: This is when a bully shares personal and private information, pictures, or videos about someone

publicly. 4) **impersonation**: This is a situation where a bully pretends to be someone else while harassing the victim.

Why are these new forms of bullying on the rise? Some young people do it to feel powerful, and some bullies do it simply because they are bored. Also, Internet users can do whatever they like online, insulting and harassing others, usually without _____. Studies show that many people seem to have less sense of responsibility for their online actions. Females seem to take part in cyberbullying more than males, and minority groups such as gays and _____ are also often the targets of such attacks. But anyone who uses social media can be a cyberbullying victim. There are cases of teachers being cyberbullied by their students, and celebrities have had to deal with harassment too.

Experts agree that when cyberbullying incidents _____, it is a bad idea to respond to the bully or fight back. Instead, victims should try to save the evidence of bullying, and try to block the bully from contacting them. Perhaps most importantly, people should be kind and polite in their own use of the Internet; research shows that Internet users who gossip or are rude to other users increase their chances of becoming a _____ bullying victim.

Notes

bullies	abuse
bullying	playground
victims	leave out
harassment	

D Check Your Understanding

Circle true (T) or false (F) for the following statements about the article.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Mobile technology has changed the way bullies act. | T / F |
| 2. Cyberbullying can take place at any time. | T / F |
| 3. Cyberbullies are always stronger than their victims. | T / F |
| 4. Girls more often take part in cyberbullying than boys. | T / F |
| 5. If you are cyber-bullied you should try to fight back. | T / F |

E What Do You Think?

Have you ever done any of these things? Circle your answers and then ask a classmate for their answers.

Have you ever...

...bullied someone?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never
...been bullied by someone?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never
...excluded someone from a group?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never
...been excluded from a group?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never
...gotten into an argument on the Internet?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never
...gotten into an argument in real life?	Yes, more than a few times	Yes, a few times	Yes, once	I don't remember	never

Further Discussion

- Which of the forms of cyberbullying were you aware of?
- Do you know anyone who has been affected by bullying, in either its traditional or cyber form?
- Do you think there should be a criminal punishment for cyberbullying?