

A Social media verbs

My friend **posted** a video of her baby and it was shared over a thousand times!

Send me a **friend request**, and then you can see the pictures I took.



I probably **update my status** about twice a week. I like telling people what I'm doing.

Over 100,000 people **subscribe** to his video channel and **follow** him on Twitter.

B A social media app

Here's our round-up of the latest apps. This month we loved **CatNapp**, a new social media app that allows users to share information about their favourite pets.

We found it very easy to use. You create a **profile** of your cat, **upload** a favourite **photo** and include some basic information about it (age, colour, favourite food). You can then **post updates** about what your cat has been doing, **share links**¹ to things you find interesting or **comment** on other cats' profiles. You can **rate** videos of other cats' adventures (from one to five stars) or see how many **views**² or **likes**³ your post got. The most popular post each month wins a prize!

We found it a little annoying that you can't turn off **notifications**⁴ when a friend writes something new, but overall cat lovers will adore it. **Highly recommended.**



Language help

Many of the words in this unit are used as both nouns and verbs. For example:

24 people **liked** my post.
My post got 24 **likes**.
I **commented** on her status.
I wrote a **comment** on her status.

- ¹ connections to other websites
² times people have watched it
³ times people have clicked 'like'
⁴ messages to tell you when something has happened

C Online privacy

Top tips for staying safe online

On social media, it's important to think about who can see your personal information:

- If you have to give personal information (e.g. date of birth, address) when you **create an account**, make sure that it's kept **private**. It's better not to give this information if you don't have to.
- Always check your **privacy settings** [choices on your account about what people see on your profile] regularly and make sure you understand who can see what you post. For example, often your **profile picture** is **public**, but you can usually make posts on your **timeline** [collection of photos and other posts on your profile] private.
- Remember that if you are **tagged** [your name and a link to your profile is added] in someone else's post, it might be seen by a lot of people you don't know. You can ask people to remove the **tag** if necessary.
- Use **direct messages** [messages that only the people in the conversation can see] for private conversations, especially if you discuss where you live, paying for things, etc.
- Delete old **accounts** on sites that you are not using any more. You might forget what information they contain, or the **default** [what happens automatically if you don't change it] privacy settings might change.

Exercises

36.1 Fill in the gaps with the words below.

follow request post share subscribe status

- 1 If you liked this video, please *share* it with your friends.
- 2 I hate it when people hundreds of photos from their holiday.
- 3 Do you know Monica Coto? She's just sent me a friend on Facebook.
- 4 I just updated my to tell people we've arrived safely at the hotel.
- 5 You can to our channel, and we'll email you when a new video comes out.
- 6 Mo likes to chefs and food writers on Twitter.

36.2 Circle the correct word.

- 1 I've just uploaded *comments* / *photos* of Saturday's football match to the team Facebook page.
- 2 Yi Ling *posts* / *views* a lot of updates about her training for the 10k run.
- 3 Jo posted a really interesting article about Formula 1 racing, but it didn't get any *likes* / *rates*.
- 4 To enter the competition, *share* / *view* this picture on your timeline before 8 pm on Friday.
- 5 Did you *rate* / *upload* that restaurant we went to? I'd give it one star!
- 6 Elena made a video for the animal charity she works for and it got 3,000 *views* / *uploads*.
- 7 An old friend *commented* / *viewed* on one of my photos, asking where I was living now.

36.3 What do we call...?

- 1 The page with information about the user of social media: *profile*
- 2 The photo of the user:
- 3 The page where a person's photos and posts appear:
- 4 The message a person receives when something new happens:
- 5 Part of a private conversation:

36.4 Fill the gaps with words from C opposite.

- 1 I'm a teacher, so I make sure everything in my profile is p *ri*.....
I don't want my students to see it.
- 2 To find your p..... settings, click on the 'lock' icon at the top of the screen
- 3 If you want everyone to be able to see that post, make sure that it's p.....
- 4 Please don't t..... me in any of those photos - I look terrible!
- 5 If you want to buy the skirt, please send me a d..... message.
- 6 To create an a....., you have to give your email address and a password.
- 7 The d..... setting for new posts on this site is Friends Only, but it's easy to change if you want to share something publicly.

36.5 Over to you

Answer these questions about yourself.

- 1 What was the last thing you posted on social media?
- 2 How many views and/or likes did it get?
- 3 How often do you comment on other people's posts?
- 4 Have you checked your privacy settings recently? Is your profile public or private?

A

Radio and television

Read these extracts from TV listings.

4.00 pm	Jessica: talk show ¹ with Jessica Brown; today's guest, Rona Fredale	7.00 pm	Documentary : Are we killing our kids? Investigating ⁵ the junk food industry
5.00 pm	Cartoons ² : crazy fun for kids of all ages	8.00 pm	<i>The Happy Couple</i> : sitcom ⁶ about a pair of newly-weds
5.30 pm	<i>Golden Chance</i> : game show ³ with Bob Langley	9.00 pm	<i>Roundup</i> : sports programme with all the day's top action - tonight: rugby final
6.00 pm	News and weather forecast	10.00 pm	<i>The Day in Politics</i> : current affairs ⁷ programme. Presenter : James Hill
6.30 pm	<i>Didbury Street</i> : the nation's favourite soap ⁴	10.30 pm	<i>Wikdal</i> : detective drama set in Norway. Episode ⁹ 3: A second body is found

¹ usually has a host and famous people who answer questions about themselves ² film where the characters are drawn rather than real ³ show where people compete to win prizes ⁴ short for soap opera - a series of TV/radio programmes about the lives of a particular group of characters, continuing over a long period and broadcast (several times) every week ⁵ trying to find out the facts/truth about something ⁶ funny TV/radio show where the same characters appear in a different story each week ⁷ news about political events happening now ⁸ person who introduces the show ⁹ one of the parts into which a story is divided

B

Other expressions connected with TV and radio

The (mass) media refers to TV, radio, newspapers and the Internet, i.e. **means** of communication which reach very large numbers of people.

Subtitles enable people to read what the characters are saying (maybe in translation). If a film is **dubbed**, you hear the speech in your own language.

To **receive** a lot of TV channels, you may need a **satellite dish** on the roof or wall of your house. Many channels depend on **(TV) commercials** to make money. You may be able to **stream** radio and TV **broadcasts** from the Internet and you may be able to watch **catch-up TV**, or TV **on demand**, which allow you to watch programmes whenever you like. A lot of radio and TV stations offer free **podcasts** which you can download.

Language help

The noun **means** (a way of doing something) always ends in *s*, even in the singular. *The Internet is an important means of communication.*

C

Newspapers

A **popular** or **tabloid** newspaper usually **focuses on**¹ **sensation**² rather than real news, whereas a **quality newspaper** is usually more interested in serious news. A tabloid often has stories about celebrities, sport, **scandals**³ and crime, while a quality paper focuses more on serious **journalism**⁴ with **in-depth**⁵ articles. To read newspapers on the Internet, you may have to **subscribe** / **pay a subscription**⁶.

¹ emphasises / pays attention to ² very exciting or interesting events ³ events which shock people in a moral way ⁴ the work of collecting, writing and publishing or broadcasting news and articles ⁵ done carefully and in great detail, explaining the reasons for events ⁶ pay a sum of money regularly (e.g. once a year)

D

Verbs connected with the media

The BBC World Service **broadcasts** throughout the world. [transmits TV/radio programmes]

They're **televising** the opening of Parliament tomorrow. (or, less formal: **showing**)

The film was **shot** / **made on location** in Australia. [filmed in a real place, not in a studio]

The series **is set** in London in the 1980s. [place/time where the drama happens]

Within minutes of the event, people were **tweeting** about it. [posting very short messages on the Internet]

Common mistakes

Remember that the noun **news** is uncountable and takes a singular verb. *I have some news for you.* (NOT *I have a news.*) *The news is on TV at 7 pm.* (NOT *The news are on TV.*)

Exercises

37.1 What sort of TV programmes from A opposite are these people talking about?

1 'It investigated how the banks had wasted billions of euros in bad loans.' <i>documentary</i>	2 'Walt Disney made a lot of them. <i>Mickey Mouse</i> was probably his most famous.'	3 'The Minister of Education was on it, discussing the new schools policy.'	4 'It's so funny, especially when the old uncle appears. We can't stop laughing.'
5 'My mum watches it every day. She knows all the characters as if they were real.'	6 'We wanted to find out if it was going to rain tomorrow.'	7 'They always solve the murder in the end, but it's very exciting.'	8 'He interviewed that young star who just won an Oscar, oh, what's her name?'
9 'The prize is £500,000 this week. That's a lot of money!'	10 'They showed a repeat of the Manchester United versus Valencia match.'		

37.2 Fill the gaps with words from B opposite.

- Which do you prefer if a film is in a foreign language, to read *subtitles* or to have the film d.....?
- I downloaded a great p..... about bees. I listened to it on my MP3 player in bed last night.
- I hate it when c..... interrupt a good film. I usually go and make a cup of tea while they're on.
- We've got a new s..... d..... on our roof. We can r..... hundreds of channels now.
- I'd like a job in the m....., perhaps in TV or radio.
- A lot of people use social networking sites as their main m..... of communication with their friends.
- People often download b..... from the Internet so they don't need to watch them on the day they are transmitted.
- With a fast broadband connection, you can s..... TV shows directly from the Internet.

37.3 Sort these words into two categories: 'tabloid' and 'quality' newspaper.

celebrity news complex political debate scandals in-depth reviews of books
competitions and prizes sensational crimes long articles huge headlines

tabloid	quality
<i>celebrity news</i>	

37.4 Rewrite the words in bold using verbs from the opposite page.

- The documentary **looked into** *investigated* the food industry and **emphasised**..... school meals.
- The programme **was filmed**..... /..... in Northern Finland. (*two answers*)
- CNN **sends**..... news programmes around the world.
- They're **showing**..... the cup final next week. (*give a more formal verb*)
- The drama **takes place**..... in Paris in the 1880s.
- Do you ever **send those short messages over the Internet**..... about news events?

37.5 Over to you

Which types of media do you use most? Give your reasons.

A Types of government

republic: a state **governed** by representatives and, usually, a president (e.g. USA, France)

monarchy: a state **ruled** by a king or queen (e.g. UK, Sweden)

federation: a union of political units (e.g. provinces) under a central government (e.g. USA)

democracy: **government** of, by and for the people

dictatorship: system of government run by a dictator

independence: freedom from outside control; self-governing

B Presidential and parliamentary government (US and UK)



United States Presidential government: The powers of the **President** and the **legislature (Congress)** are separate. These **branches** of government are **elected**¹ separately. The **President** is elected for a four-year **term** and can **appoint**² or **nominate** high officials in government, including **cabinet** members (who advise) and federal **judges**. The President leads a major **party**, usually, but not always, the **majority party**³ in Congress. **Congress** consists of two **houses**, the **House of Representatives** and the **Senate**.

United Kingdom Parliamentary government: The government consists of a legislature⁴ (**Parliament**) and a **Cabinet of Ministers**⁵ from the majority party in Parliament. If no party has an overall majority, there may be a **coalition** government formed from more than one party. The **Prime Minister** is the head of the government and the leader of the majority party in the **House of Commons**. The Prime Minister **selects** high officials and **heads**⁶ the Cabinet. Parliament consists of two **chambers**, the **House of Commons** and the **House of Lords**. **MPs** are **members of parliament** elected from each **constituency**⁷ to the House of Commons.

¹ chosen by vote ² decide who to give positions of authority to ³ political party which won the most votes ⁴ group of people who make new laws ⁵ group of most important ministers ⁶ is the leader of ⁷ geographical voting area

C Parliamentary elections

During a **general election** each **constituency** has to choose which **politician** it wants as its **representative**. Usually there are several **candidates** to choose from. These candidates are all **standing** (or **running**) for Parliament. They present the **policies**, i.e. their party's plans. On **polling day** every adult goes to the **polling station** and **casts a vote** by marking a cross on their **ballot paper**. The candidate who gets the **majority** of votes wins the **seat**. If the vote is very close, the constituency may be referred to as a **marginal seat**.

Language help

Here are some word families relating to words on this page.

verb	person noun	abstract noun
rule	ruler	rule
govern	governor	government
preside (often followed by <i>over</i>)	president	presidency
represent	representative	representation
elect	elector; electorate (group of people)	election

Exercises

38.1 Circle the correct word from the choices offered.

- 1 A member of parliament *governs / rules / represents* his or her constituency.
- 2 India gained *republic / independence / democracy* from the UK in 1948.
- 3 On *electing / voting / polling* day electors cast their votes.
- 4 She's *running / sitting / walking* for Parliament in the next election.
- 5 His father was *voted / stood / elected* MP for Cambridge City.
- 6 What is your country's economic *politics / policy / politician*?
- 7 The USA is a *legislature / federation / congress* of 50 states.
- 8 Although modern monarchs are said to *rule / govern / preside* over their countries they have little real power.

38.2 Look at this text about politics in the UK. Fill in the missing words.

Parliament in the UK consists of two¹ chambers : the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The country is divided into² _____, each of which elects a(n)³ _____ to represent it in the House of Commons. The ruling party in the Commons is the one which gains a⁴ _____ of seats. The main figure in that party is called the⁵ _____. Sometimes more than one party may share power in a⁶ _____ government. The Commons is elected for a maximum period of five years although the Prime Minister may call a general⁷ _____ at any time within that period.

38.3 Match the sentence beginnings on the left with the endings on the right.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 The President appointed his uncle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | a over a Cabinet of Ministers. |
| 2 The Prime Minister presides | <input type="checkbox"/> | b on the ballot paper. |
| 3 In last year's election I voted | <input type="checkbox"/> | c as a judge. |
| 4 Lee says he would never want to stand | <input type="checkbox"/> | d from in our constituency. |
| 5 Put a cross beside the name you want | <input type="checkbox"/> | e the seat in our constituency. |
| 6 I haven't decided yet how to cast | <input type="checkbox"/> | f for the Green Party candidate. |
| 7 I'm not keen on the candidate who won | <input type="checkbox"/> | g for political office. |
| 8 We had five candidates to choose | <input type="checkbox"/> | h my vote. |

38.4 Find a word from the Language help section to match each definition.

- 1 the person with the highest political position in a republic *the President*
- 2 someone who speaks or does something officially, on behalf of a group of people
- 3 the leader of a country, e.g. a monarch or dictator
- 4 the period of office of the person with the highest political position in a republic
- 5 system used for controlling a country
- 6 the group of people who are entitled to vote
- 7 to act officially for a group of people

38.5 Over to you

Write a paragraph about the political system in your country. Make sure your paragraph deals with all the following aspects of the topic appropriate to your country:

kind of government, e.g. a republic or a monarchy chambers or houses elections terms of office
government leader