

St. Joseph's Anglo-Chinese School

Form 5 English Language

Paper 4 Speaking – Exam Practice (DSE 2016 Set 8.2)

Warm-up – Two Easier Part B Questions (6 minutes, in pairs)

Both partners answer the same question. Push for a time, a reason and one detail — not a one-word answer. This is where you hear their Level 3 baseline.

Question 1	Do you post photos on social media?	What to listen for
Model answer	I post maybe twice a week — mostly on Instagram, usually food or my basketball team.	How often, on which platform, and what kind of photo. One detail beats a one-word answer.
Question 2	What kinds of photos do you post on social media?	
Model answer	Mostly pictures of my team and food. I never post anything a teacher or an employer could use against me.	Whether they give examples, and whether they mention privacy or their future at all.

► Upgrade opportunity — take what they say and lift it

“What I usually say”	Upgrade (useful for Part A and Part B)	Where it pays off
"I post photos often."	I post photos on a regular basis.	Any habit or routine answer
"I don't want people to see bad photos of me."	I am careful about my digital footprint.	Part A bullet 1, Part B Q8
"People might laugh at me."	I worry about being judged or shamed online.	Part A bullet 2, Part B Q4
"I use my phone too much."	I spend more time on social media than I intend to.	Part A bullet 3, Part B Q6

Part A – The Discussion Task (10 min preparation, 8 min discussion)

You are members of the Peer Counselling team concerned about students' behaviour on social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WeChat, Weibo). You may want to talk about:

► Say it another way — synonyms to replace the question's own wording

Students who recycle the paper's words score lower than students who paraphrase. Put these on the board and ban the left-hand column.

The question says...	Say instead	Model sentence
a good image	a positive online presence · how you come across · the impression you give · your reputation online	<i>A positive online presence now matters as much as a good school report.</i>
acceptable behaviour	what is and isn't done online · the limits of good manners online · online etiquette · what crosses the line	<i>Tagging a friend in an embarrassing photo probably crosses the line.</i>
problems young people have	the pressures teenagers face online · the downsides of being constantly online · the risks that come with social media	<i>One of the downsides of being constantly online is comparing yourself with everyone else.</i>
social media	networking sites and platforms · the apps we use every day · online communities	<i>The apps we use every day are designed to keep us scrolling.</i>
present a good image	manage how you are seen · curate your profile · come across well · protect your reputation	<i>Students should learn to curate their profile before an employer ever sees it.</i>

anything else you think is important	one thing often overlooked · what also matters here · a further consideration	<i>One thing often overlooked is that a photo you delete may still be on someone else's phone.</i>
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Ideas for the Note Grid – Noun Phrases per Question, with a Model Example (the same sets appear on the deck: Q1–Q3, then Part B Q7–Q8)

Give the noun phrase first (it is what they write in the grid), then the model example (it is what they say). The points in each set are deliberately different in kind, so a group cannot make the same point twice. Where a question has two sides, the set is built in two halves, so the group always has both sides ready.

1. whether it is important to present a good image on social media		
• a better first impression with employers	<i>e.g. Employers often look at social media before they hire, so a clean profile can open doors for you.</i>	
• protection from shaming and scams	<i>e.g. If your profile is full of angry posts and private details, strangers can target you or screenshot you.</i>	
• a stronger sense of self-respect	<i>e.g. When I choose what to post, I think about my own standards instead of chasing likes.</i>	

2. what is acceptable behaviour on social media		
• respect for other people's privacy	<i>e.g. Ask before you tag someone — the article says young people hate being tagged in embarrassing photos.</i>	
• checking before you share	<i>e.g. Share only what you have checked, because made-up posts travel faster than corrections.</i>	
• thinking about the future	<i>e.g. Anything you post can come back to haunt you years later, even if you delete it.</i>	

3. other problems young people have using social media		
• cyberbullying and pile-ons	<i>e.g. One nasty comment can be shared by hundreds of accounts before the lunch break is over.</i>	
• addiction and lost sleep	<i>e.g. I open the app “for five minutes” and look up an hour later, still not finished my homework.</i>	
• the pressure to compare	<i>e.g. Everyone posts only their best moments, so an ordinary day looks like a failure next to theirs.</i>	
• fake news and dangerous trends	<i>e.g. Unverified health scares and online challenges spread quickly because nobody checks the source.</i>	

Note: the fourth bullet (anything else you think is important) has no slide — it is the group's open floor. If they stall, ask them to raise one thing the paper never mentions, or to disagree with the group's best idea so far.

Part B – Individual Response: Questions 7 and 8 (1 minute each)

Q7. Do you think the use of social media should be monitored?

4 noun-phrase ideas (2 YES · 2 NO)	Model example
• YES: protection from harmful content	<i>Younger users are shown gambling ads and violent clips, so some filtering is genuinely useful.</i>
• YES: it reduces cyberbullying	<i>Schools that monitor group chats catch bullying early instead of after the damage is done.</i>
• NO: it damages trust	<i>Reading a student's private messages treats us all as suspects rather than as learners.</i>
• NO: it cannot keep up	<i>New apps appear every month, so any monitoring system is out of date almost immediately.</i>

► Upgrade opportunity for Q7

“What I usually say”	Upgrade	Why it scores
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"Social media is bad for us."	Social media carries real risks if it is used without limits.	Names the risk precisely
"Parents should check our phones."	Parents should be involved, but with consent rather than secret checks.	Balanced, adds a condition
"It's our own business."	There is a line between protecting students and invading their privacy.	Names the trade-off

Q8. Do you judge people based on what you see on social media?

2 noun-phrase ideas (YES · NO)	Model example
• YES: the profile is often all we have	<i>I only know some classmates through what they post, so their timeline becomes my first impression.</i>
• NO: the profile is a highlight reel	<i>I have learnt that everyone posts their best moments, so I try not to judge from a single photo.</i>

► Upgrade opportunity for Q8

"What I usually say"	Upgrade	Why it scores
"People post fake things."	What people post is a curated highlight reel, not real life.	Precise, modern vocabulary
"I don't judge them."	I try to check the evidence before I form an opinion.	Shows a habit, not just a refusal
"It's not fair to judge."	It is unfair to judge someone on an image they chose to share.	Ties the answer back to fairness