



# Social Media and Friendship

## Overview

### About the topic

Friendship, as a topic of eternity, has gained much more attention in the wake of social media. Its concept also seems to be challenged. Is it for better or worse? Ss may find some of the answers in the texts “Is true friendship dying away” and “Friends. com.” Both texts are friendship-related but offer rather opposing opinions as to the impact of social media on the cultivation of true friendship. Read them and Ss may find both of them are truly illuminating and thought-provoking.

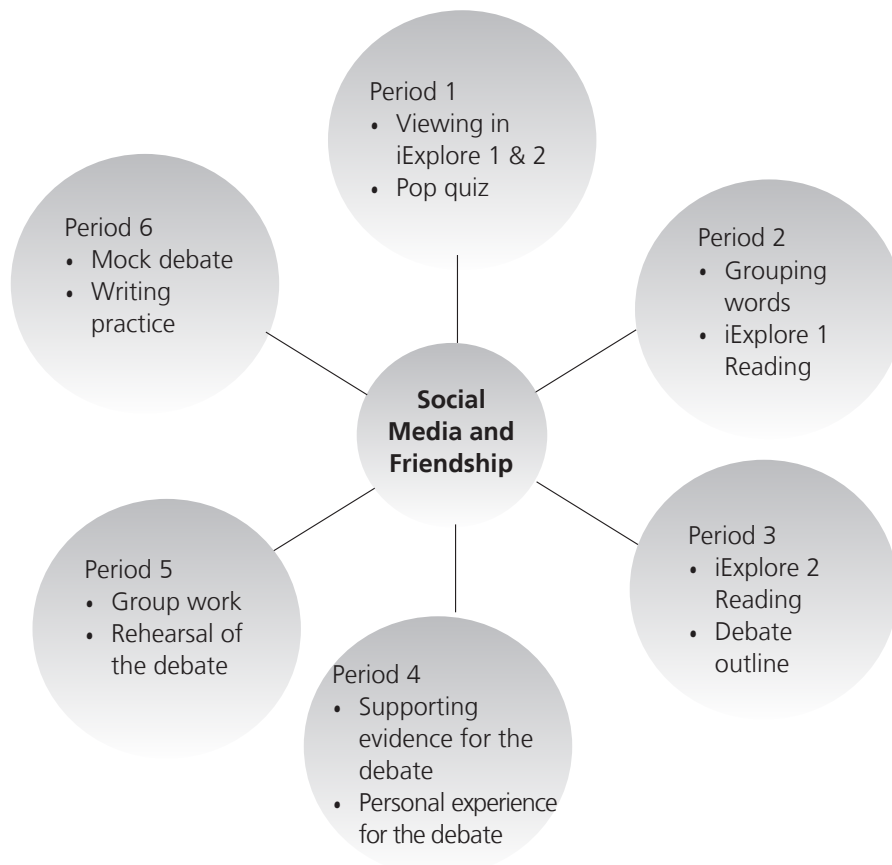
### Teaching objectives

Upon completion of this unit, T is expected to enable Ss to:

Objectives	Tasks
build up their vocabulary about social media and friendship	Building your language — Theme-related words and expressions (iExplore 1 & 2)
discuss how social media affect their concepts of friendship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Viewing (iExplore 2)</li><li>• Reading (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Understanding the text (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Sharing your ideas (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li></ul>
compare and contrast face-to-face friends with online friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Viewing (iExplore 2)</li><li>• Reading (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Understanding the text (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li></ul>
work out better ways to make friends at college	Sharing your ideas (iExplore 1 & 2)
make a mock debate on the topic “Face-to-face friends are better than online friends” to enhance their argumentation ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Viewing (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Reading (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Understanding the text (iExplore 1 &amp; 2)</li><li>• Unit project (iProduce)</li></ul>

### Teaching suggestions

This unit is designed for a six-period class. In each of the periods, certain tasks are to be completed.



# Preview check

**1** Pop quiz: Please answer the following questions based on the texts you have read. For questions 1 – 4, choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D. For questions 5 – 8, complete the sentences with the most suitable words from the two texts.

Draw a seat chart and ask Ss to remain seated in the same place until this unit is finished. Ss are assigned by T in two large groups: PRO Group and CON Group. Each large group can be further divided into smaller groups, each of which can be named, by Ss themselves, after PRO-related words or CON-related words, say, “intimacy” for PRO groups and “restriction” for CON groups. Then Ss participate in Pop quiz. Each group shows their answer to T and wins one point if their answer is correct. About 10 seconds is allotted to each question. The purpose of this activity is to get group members to know each other so that they can work closely in the debate. Meanwhile, it can be used to check if Ss have previewed the two texts.

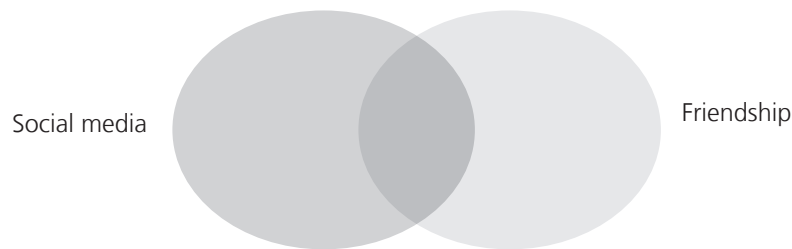
- Which of the following scholars has been quoted in iExplore 1 Reading?  
 A Aristotle      B Socrates      C Confucius      D Mencius
- Close friends share \_\_\_\_\_ together, as is quoted in iExplore 1 Reading.  
 A wine      B salt      C thought      D tears

- 3 Which of the following games has been used as an example in iExplore 2 Reading?  
 A DOTA                      B Minecraft                      C LOL                      D MMORPGs
- 4 The author of iExplore 2 Reading got to know his girlfriend via \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A Facebook                      B LinkedIn                      C MSN                      D Twitter
- 5 Tensions are running high in this war-stricken area, which is a \_\_\_\_\_ with guns.
- 6 Our happiness was soon e\_\_\_\_\_ by the bad news.
- 7 The most important advantage of online friends is the possibility of finding friends without any geographical r\_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 Hungry for the comforting food you grew up with? Thanks to some online retailers, your favorite regional flavors may be just a \_\_\_\_\_ away.

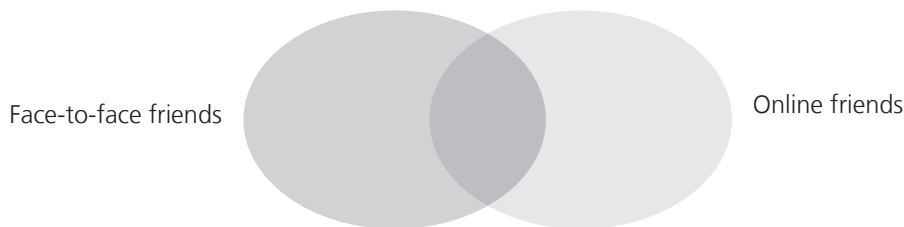
②

Grouping words: Please go over the vocabulary list of iExplore Readings, group words into the required circles or the overlapping area, and then explain your choices.

1



2



## Reference answers

①

1 A 2 B 3 D 4 C 5 awash 6 eclipsed 7 restriction 8 click

②

- 1 **Social media:** emerge; routine; stimulus  
**Friendship:** connectivity; nurture; sociality; engage  
**Overlapping area:** awash; sociologist; eclipse; thwart; stymie
- 2 **Face-to-face friends:** compatible; hesitant; restriction  
**Online friends:** confidential; directly; openly  
**Overlapping area:** sociable; interact; compatible

# iExplore 1

## VIEWING

Ask Ss to describe and comment on the pictures.

## Reference answers

These pictures depict how differently people socialize with each other with different social media. A is mainly aimed for professionals, and a friend request must go with a CV, two letters of recommendation and a blood sample before it is to be processed and accepted. In contrast, B, C, and D seem to be much more open in terms of approving the friend request.

## READING

### Notes

**Twitter:** Created in March 2006 by Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone and Noah Glass and launched three months later, Twitter has been providing online social networking service to millions of users who post and read millions of “tweets” (140-character messages) on a daily basis worldwide.

**Facebook:** Facebook is an online social networking service launched on February 4, 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg with Eduardo Saverin, Andrew McCollum, Dustin Moskovitz and Chris Hughes, his roommates and fellow students at Harvard University. Any registered user aged 13 and above can get access to this service. They can create a user profile, add other users as friends, exchange messages, post status updates and photos, share videos and receive notifications when others update their profiles. In addition, they may join common-interest user groups, organized by the workplace, school or college, etc.

**LinkedIn:** Unlike Twitter or Facebook which is available to people regardless of their career background, LinkedIn is a business-oriented social networking service mainly for professional networking. The site is available in about 40 languages.

**Aristotle (384 – 322 BC):** one of the greatest intellectual figures of Western history. As an ancient Greek philosopher and scientist, he was interested in both sciences and arts, including biology, chemistry, ethics, history, logic, metaphysics, rhetoric, psychology, etc. His works have greatly influenced the Western society.

## Language points

1 Indeed, we might feel as if we are suddenly awash in friends. (para. 2, sentence 1)

awash: a. containing too many things or people of a particular kind 充斥的; 泛滥的, 其后常接介词 with。

e.g. *This campaign has been the best example of how politics is awash with money.*

a- 是一个前缀, 用来构成一般用作表语的形容词或是副词, 表示“处于…情况”或是“呈现…状态”。类似的词还有 *afire*, *asleep* 等。

- 2 Smaller circles of friends are being partially eclipsed by Facebook acquaintances routinely numbered in the hundreds. (para. 2, sentence 4)

eclipse: *vt.* to become more important, powerful, famous, etc. than someone or something else, so that they are no longer noticed 使失色; 盖过

*e.g. It seems that digital media will eclipse print in a matter of decades.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *Your Facebook acquaintances usually add up to hundreds. In contrast, the number of your face-to-face friends is much smaller.*

- 3 Awareness of a possible problem took off just as the online world was emerging. (para. 3, sentence 1)

1) take off: to start or to start spreading 开始; 开始流行

*e.g. The design first took off in American colleges.*

2) emerge: *vi.* to begin to be known or noticed 开始为人所知; 兴起

*e.g. Several important facts emerged after a lengthy investigation.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *People realize as early as the appearance of the online world that some problems might occur.*

- 4 In London, another poll had two-fifths of respondents reporting that they face a prevailing drift away from their closest friends. (para. 4, sentence 1)

prevailing: *a. (only before noun)* existing or accepted in a particular place or at a particular time 流行的; 盛行的

*e.g. Green energy growth is now the prevailing economic model of our time.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *According to another poll conducted in London, 40% participants feel that they have to follow the social trend and as a result, gradually moved farther and farther away from their closest friends.*

- 5 American sociologists have tracked related trends on a broader scale, well beyond the urban jungle. (para. 4, sentence 3)

1) on a large (small, grand, etc.) scale: to a relatively large (small, grand, etc.) degree or extent 大(小、宏大等)规模

*e.g. Many scientists are understandably nervous about improving the atmosphere and the oceans on a grand scale.*

2) urban jungle: city life, especially the unpleasant parts of it 都市丛林

*e.g. How can people survive in the urban jungle which is awash with traffic jam, haze and high concrete buildings?*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *American sociologists have recorded the progress of related social trends in different areas far away from cities.*

- 6 While social networking sites and the like have grown exponentially, the element that is crucial, and harder to investigate, is the quality of the connections they nurture. (para. 5, sentence 5)

1) exponentially: *ad.* increasing or growing very fast 增长迅猛地; 呈几何级数增长地

*e.g. Civilian casualties in those war-stricken areas are increasing exponentially.*

2) crucial: *a.* something that is crucial is extremely important, because everything else depends on it 至关重要的; 关键性的

*e.g. It is crucial that the investigation is continued until more facts emerge.*

3) investigate: *vt.* to try to find out the truth about something, such as a crime, accident or scientific problem 查明, 调查, 侦查(犯罪、事故或科学问题等的真相)

*e.g. It took us several months to investigate the real cause of the air crash.*

4) nurture: *vt. (fml.)* to help a plan, idea, feeling, etc. to develop 发展（计划、想法等）；培养（感情等）  
e.g. *It is easy to nurture instant connections but much harder to cultivate real friendship in the virtual world.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *Despite the fact that the number of social media websites and other similar service providers has been skyrocketing, it is the quality of the online relationship that matters greatly and demands more effort to evaluate.*

7 Yet we know that less is more when it comes to deeper relationships. (para. 6, sentence 1)

when it comes to (doing) sth.: when the subject being discussed is a particular thing 谈到（做）某事时  
e.g. *When it comes to the issue of “nature vs. nurture,” it is still hard to decide which one is more crucial.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *It may not matter much how many friends you have. But it does matter a lot how deeply you are connected with them. In other words, the fewer friends you have, the more deeply you know each of them and the more their friendship means to you.*

8 A society that thwarts opportunities for deeper sociality, therefore, stymies well-being. (para. 7, sentence 4)

1) thwart: *vt. (fml.)* to prevent someone from doing what they are trying to do 阻挠；阻碍  
e.g. *The security guards thwarted the would-be bomb attack.*

2) stymie: *vt. (infml.)* to prevent someone from doing what they have planned or want to do 阻碍；妨碍；使不能实施  
e.g. *Our holiday plan has been stymied by the volcano eruption.*

9 How many individuals would say that friendship is the most important thing in their lives, only to move thousands of miles across the continent to take up a better-paid job? (para. 8, sentence 4)

... only to do: used to show that something is surprising or unexpected …却…  
e.g. *He made it to the train station, only to find that the train left five minutes ago.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *Few people would give up a better-paid job for the sake of friendship though they may claim that friends count most.*

10 Structured time results from the way an average day is parceled up for our kids — time for school, time for homework, time for music practice, even time for play. Yet too often today, no period is left unstructured. (para.10, sentences 1 – 2)

1) parcel sth. up: to divide something into small parts, especially so that it is easier to deal with 把…分成小份（以方便处理）  
e.g. *University education is often parceled up into specialist teaching units.*

2) “No period is left unstructured” is an example of double negation. Both “no” and prefix “un-” mean negative and cancel out each other in the sentence, making the sentence mean positive.

11 It’s a key insight for an age of instant social connectivity, though one in which we paradoxically have an apparently growing need to be more deeply connected. (para 12, sentence 5)

1) insight: *n. [U]* the ability to understand and realize what people or situations are really like 洞察力；眼光  
e.g. *This movie is full of fascinating insight into human nature.*

2) 文中的一指代 an age, 而在 in which 是定语从句, 修饰限定 one。

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *What Aristotle said about friendship is truly insightful for people living in the age of social media. In this age, people seem to be acquainted with each other the moment they meet online while at the same time, they believe that it is necessary for them to know more about their acquaintances so as to further their relationship.*

# Reference answers

## Understanding the text

❶

- 1) make true friendship die away
- 2) we conduct relationships
- 3) the joys of human contact
- 4) shallow relationships
- 5) Put down the device; engage the person

❷

- 1 Social media such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.
- 2 People have few close friends and are facing a drift away from their close friends, for which the pressures of urban life should be blamed.
- 3 Because the quality of the connection online is not high. A connection online may only be a click away, but cultivating a good friendship takes more.
- 4 Because we are social animals. Our life would be fundamentally lacking without good friends.
- 5 Because children can get to know others for who they are in themselves when they hang out in unstructured time.
- 6 We are living in an age of instant social connectivity while we still have a growing need to be more deeply connected.

❸

- 1
  - I agree with this statement. Thanks to social media, we can make more friends more easily and quickly. Yet there are very few of them when it comes to “real friendship.” We only know them but cannot share bitter and sweet moments in life with them. I have such acquaintances around me. For example, I have many so-called friends in my Moments on WeChat. When I have vexations in life and want somebody to listen to me, I go through the directory, only to find there are few friends I can turn to.
  - I don't agree with this statement. I do believe that we can share our deep intimacies with some online friends. Contrary to what most people may believe, some online friends can share real information and share a lot of their life than we think. Therefore some online friends can be trusted and we can share deep intimacies with them. I have such acquaintances around me. For example, I have a friend whom I met online more than 10 years ago. I consider her one of my best friends even though I have never met her in person because we can tell each other anything and she has taken the time to listen to, reassure and laugh with me. Of course she has allowed me to do the same for her. I can really share deep intimacies with her.
- 2 The quotation marks are used, for one thing, for emphasis because “friending” is a newly coined word in the wake of social media. For another, the author tries to point out the difference between traditional way of making friends and its modern version. In the past, it took longer time and more efforts to build up real friendship whereas today, all you need to “friend” people on social networks is to click the mouse and the person who makes the request will automatically become your friend. By “shallow relationships,” the author means the relationships between online friends are usually superficial and thus not trustworthy, because real friendship takes time and effort to nurture.
- 3 I agree with Aristotle because human beings are social animals so no one can survive the ups and downs, especially downs of life alone. Take my own experience for example, when I freshly entered university, I felt it difficult to adapt to the new environment, because I, once the top student in my high school, found there were too many classmates who did better in studies than me. Moreover, it seemed that I could not communicate with my roommates and classmates smoothly due to different living and studying habits. I did not want to pour out my troubles to my parents lest they worried about me. At that time, I was in my ideal university; I needn't worry about money. However, I felt my life was fundamentally lacking, only because I did not have friends.

# Building your language

## Theme-related words and expressions

① messaging; social connectivity; social networking sites; online world; face-to-face chat; sociality; circles of friends; friending; human contact; connection ...

- ②
- 1 social media: forms of electronic communication (e.g. websites for social networking and microblogging), through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, etc.
  - 2 friendship: a relationship that survives the trials and tribulations of time and remains unconditional. People in the relationship have the feeling of comfort and emotional safety.
  - 3 social connectivity: social ability to connect or communicate with others
  - 4 structured time: time allotted to specific activities on purpose

## Collocations

- ①
- 1 hung out
  - 2 at fault
  - 3 and the like
  - 4 when it comes to
  - 5 take up
  - 6 on a broader scale

- ②
- 1 broke off the relationship
  - 2 established / discovered a connection
  - 3 sensed a close intimacy
  - 4 a casual / an old acquaintance
  - 5 fair-weather friends
  - 6 lifelong friendship

## Gems of the language

第一句：本句话指出了“计划内时间”形成的原因。句子的主要特色是破折号的使用和 time for 词组的排比使用。句子罗列了每天的活动时间表，甚至具体到何时玩。另外，这个时间表是 parceled up 交给孩子的，说明孩子们的每一天不仅都被排得满满的，没有时间和同伴交流，而且是被逼无奈的，根本没有安排自己生活的可能性。

第二句：本句话是阐释亚里士多德有关友情的论述。从句型上讲，本句有两大妙处。第一，它利用同样的句式 It's not just that ... It's that, 前面否定后面肯定，突出强调后者的寓意。另一点是暗喻的使用，salt 在这里不仅仅是调味品，而是比喻人生的酸甜苦辣。强调“能够和你一起共同品尝生活万般滋味的人一定会是你真正的朋友”。

第三句：本句话指出了社交媒体带给我们的困惑。我们使用社交媒体越多，就会想当然地以为我们交的朋友也越多，不过实际情况正好相反，我们和朋友反而变得更加陌生。从句子结构上讲，本句话的特色体现在 the more ... the more ... 句型的使用和 connect / disconnect 这组反义词的使用。前者指出社交媒体带给我们的假象，后者则尖锐地指出现象和本质的极大反差，而且通过 connect / disconnect 这组反义词的使用，两个句子之间建立起有效的语意衔接。



## Sharing your ideas

- 1 I want to treat my professors as masters and myself as an apprentice; I want to treat my roommates the way I want to be treated; and I want to treat my classmates as my equals. Due to social media, teaching is no longer confined to the boundaries of classroom. Students can discuss with their professors and fellow students in a off-class setting. Moreover, social media let us know each other's updates more quickly and more easily, which, to some extent, brings us closer.
- 2 Thumbs-up people have too many friends online that they could not afford to comment on each of the posts and they don't take my updates or moments seriously. Therefore, thumbs-up people are acquaintances rather than friends.

# iExplore 2

## VIEWING

Ask Ss to describe and comment on the pictures.

## Reference answers

①

### Positive ways

- 1 People may use social media to maintain their real-life friendships, for instance, they share good news, schedule plans with friends and stay in touch with faraway friends.
- 2 People get connected easily on social media websites.
- 3 Online communication bolsters people's confidence, facilitates new friendships, helps shy and lonely people to make new friends and is good to find old acquaintances.

### Negative ways

- 1 People may exaggerate their good qualities and lie about their bad qualities.
- 2 People may be more willing to communicate with friends online than with face-to-face friends in the real life. Therefore they may feel more wrapped up in their small world.
- 3 Some people may spend far more time on Facebook or other social media than necessary.

②

I stay in touch with my former middle school classmates via Renren; I read and comment on Moments posted by my real-world friends on WeChat; I take advantage of "voice message" on WeChat to save the trouble of texting on my cellphone, which is like making a telephone call but free of charge; I post on Moments on WeChat or update my blog on a daily basis so that my parents know what I am doing and how I feel when I am away from them.

## Notes

**MSN Messenger:** an instant messaging client developed by MSN (Microsoft Service Network), which was first released on July 22, 1999. In 2005, it was rebranded under Windows Live and has since been officially known by Windows Live Messenger.

**Massive Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game:** the most popular game among all kinds of profitable online games. In the game, each player acts as a virtual character and meanwhile interacts with millions of other online gamers. The game keeps going even if some gamers stop playing.

## Language points

- 1 Online communication feels safer and more confidential to me, and I don't fear people judging and criticizing me. (para. 3, sentence 5)
  - 1) confidential: *a.* spoken or written in secret and intended to be kept secret 秘密的; 机密的  
e.g. *Confidential information must not be submitted via online system.*
  - 2) criticize: *v.* to express your disapproval of someone or something, or to talk about their faults 批评; 指责  
e.g. *The local government is widely criticized for being inactive in the accident.*
- 2 The most important advantage of online friends is the possibility of finding friends without any geographical restriction. (para. 4, sentence 1)
  - 1) geographical: *a.* relating to the place in an area, country, etc. where something or someone is 地理的; 地理位置的  
e.g. *Many American families are split by large geographical distances.*
  - 2) restriction: *n.* [C] a rule, action or situation that limits or controls someone or something 限制; 约束; 限定  
e.g. *The local government has imposed speed restrictions in this area for fear of more car accidents of this kind.*

This sentence can be paraphrased like this: *The biggest advantage of friending online is that you could make friends with any person you want no matter where they live.*

## Reference answers

### Understanding the text

- 1 B
- 2 Online friends have several advantages over face-to-face friends.
- 3
  - 1) The Internet offers special methods of communication.
  - 2) The feelings you have communicating online are special, too.
  - 3) The most important advantage of online friends is the possibility of finding friends without any geographical restriction.
- 4 B
- 5
  - 1) on the other hand; in contrast; unlike
  - 2) be similar to; like; alike; also; similarly; on the contrary; by contrast; neither ... nor ...; in the same way; make an analogy

## Building your language

### Theme-related words and expressions

compatible; special; honest; close; intimate; loyal; true; faithful; long-standing; personal

### Collocations

- |                 |                          |                |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1 interact with | 2 In contrast            | 3 in person    |
| 4 a variety of  | 5 have an advantage over | 6 say out loud |

### Gems of the language

第一句: Samuel Johnson 这句有关友情的名句着重点在于朋友之间的契合, 无论是精神上的, 还是心灵上的, 还是德行上的。Union, marriage, bond 三个词皆有结合之意, 由表面形式上的 union 过渡到契约型的 marriage, 再到更为亲密的 bond, 从而指出友情的发展需要外在形式到内心的统一。三个 of 短语连用, 句式对仗, 语意层层深入, 用词简短有力, 值得背诵。

第二句: 这句话主要谈及友情对于提高幸福指数、缓解痛苦程度的重要性。句中有两组同义词组 happiness / joy 和 misery / grief 以及两组反义词组 improve / abate 和 double / divide。同时, doubling our joys / dividing our grief 既是一种对仗结构, 又使用了头韵 (alliteration) 的修辞手段 (即 doubling 和 dividing 两个词都以 /d/ 这个音开始, 形成头韵), 使句子读起来朗朗上口。

第三句: 这句话和孔子的“己所不欲, 勿施于人”有异曲同工之妙。古希腊先哲亚里士多德和中国古代先贤孔子都指出交友的黄金法则就是把朋友当作镜中的自己, 要想让朋友如何对待自己, 首先得如何对待朋友, 这样才能获得真正的友情。

## Sharing your ideas

### ①

There are also disadvantages of online friends over face-to-face friends. First, online friends tend to exaggerate their good qualities and lie about their bad qualities. So it is difficult for you to know them for who they are in themselves. Second, it is hard to develop deep relationships with online friends. Third, some people, especially teens, might be bullied by their online friends. Last, people might be so obsessed with their e-buddies that they neglect those in their real world. (The evidence for the points above is omitted.)

### ②

The social networking sites like Renren and QQ are accessible 24/7. Therefore we can talk with friends anytime anywhere as long as we can log on the Internet service. Moreover, they allow us to get in contact with old acquaintances, and save us trouble in writing and posting the pen-paper letter. They really bring us a lot of convenience. However, I don't use any of them to make friends, because I don't trust those I have never met in person. In addition, cybercrime nowadays is prevailing, and I don't want to put myself in trouble.

# iProduce

## Teaching tips

The successful completion of the project will enable Ss to practice what they have learned from iExplore Readings, especially in terms of arguments for both sides of the mock debate.

**PRO side:** Face-to-face friends are better than online friends.

For Ss taking the PRO side, that is, they agree that face-to-face friends are better than online friends, both texts provide them with ammunition to fight with the opposing team.

iExplore 1 Reading provides the following two arguments for the mock debate:

Firstly, people's preference of electronic stimuli over face-to-face communication takes away the real joy of friendship. In the age of social media, people have changed the way they conduct relationships. The number of their friends is soaring and they seem to be drowned in the sea of friends. What they feel, however, is bitterness of loneliness.

Secondly, a connection may only be a click away, but cultivating a good friendship takes more. Given that people seem to be trapped in general busyness in the wake of social media, they could not afford time and effort to develop deeper and longer relationships with others. Therefore, online relationship is usually shallow and transient.

iExplore 2 Reading provides the following two arguments for the mock debate:

Firstly, face-to-face friends can play sports together whereas online friends cannot.

Secondly, friends in real life can spend time together. When they are together, they may not need to talk with each other.

**CON side:** Online friends are better than face-to-face friends.

For Ss taking the CON side, that is, they believe that online friends are better than face-to-face friends, iExplore 2 Reading provides them with three arguments to challenge the opposing team in the mock debate.

Firstly, you can engage with a large variety of net pals simultaneously online. It is completely an advantage over face-to-face communication. Some massive multiplayer online role-playing games, in particular, would bring you an array of online friends and great fun as well.

Secondly, online friends are more open and honest. They may share with you more intimacies than your face-to-face friends do. In other words, you know more about them. When you talk with them, you are, of course, equally open and honest. That makes you feel good.

Lastly, you can find your friends without geographical restrictions. On the Internet, your friends are just a click away. Wherever they are, you can reach them. Therefore you may not need to take into consideration where they live before you make friends with them. Meanwhile, you have a large number of people to choose from before you find the most compatible friends with you.

## Class organization

	辩论流程	具体操作
Step 1	Form groups (Period 1)	1 教师把学生分成两个大组，在大组中再根据人数分成若干小组，学生可以用 PRO 和 CON 相关的单词命名自己的小组。 2 从 iExplore 1 Reading 和 iExplore 2 Reading 两篇课文的 Viewing 开始进行小组活动，然后进行 Pop quiz。目的在于引入话题，加深队员之间的配合，同时检测课前预习的情况。 注：活动可以评分，优胜组可以得到 Bonus mark，期末总评时作参考。
Step 2	Make pre-debate preparations (Period 1 — related vocabulary; Period 2 — points discussed in iExplore Readings)	正式辩论之前，学生需要储备相关的词汇和论点。 1 词汇的储备可以通过检测两篇课文的 Building your language (学生课前完成) 和完成 Grouping words 来实现。在活动进行中，教师可根据现场情况适当穿插词汇的讲解 (重点单词详解见 Language points)。 2 论点的储备可以从课后练习 Understanding the text 入手，结合课文，整理出相关论点。为了节省课堂时间，教师可以规定 PRO 组负责 iExplore 1 Reading，CON 组负责 iExplore 2 Reading。在活动进行中，教师可以根据现场情况适当穿插词汇的讲解 (重点单词详解见 Language points)。
Step 3	Write an outline according to iExplore Readings (Period 3)	根据学生用书提供的 Outline 模板 (见学生用书 P18)，学生可以把 Step 2 中整理出来的论点填入 Outline，同时根据 Sharing your ideas，填写完成 Outline 中有关课外材料的部分。
Step 4	Familiarize yourself with the organization of a debate (Period 4)	1 小组内部成员讨论 Outline，填写 Rebuttal，对相关内容进行适当增补，然后小组合作完成。 2 小组成员需要熟悉学生用书中有关辩论流程的介绍 (见学生用书 P18)。
Step 5	Conduct a rehearsal (about 10 minutes in Period 5)	如果教室条件允许，可在教室的四个角落同时进行排练。每组可指派一名同学负责，并记录排练要点。之后学生回原位开始 Mock debate。排练要点交还教师，作为活动评分的参考。 注：如果课堂时间不允许，可让学生课外完成。教师可以利用自己的 Office hour 给予场外指导。
Step 6	Conduct the mock debate and give comments (Periods 5–6).	1 辩论 (如果课堂时间允许，双方各出两组，由抽签决定)。辩论时应该安排计时员和评委 (由老师和学生代表组成)，建议把辩论现场录像。 2 教师根据录像对辩论进行点评。 3 辩论结束后，每位同学根据辩论内容自选题目写一篇议论文，作文可以课外完成，成绩计入总评。

## Suggestions for evaluation

Checklist	0–5 points (0 means complete failure; 1 means poor; 2–3 means average; 4 means good and 5 means excellent.)
Does the debater give his / her point of view logically and clearly?	
Does the debater provide convincing evidence for his / her view?	
Does the debater do the rebuttal?	
Does the debater use appropriate expressions in the debate?	
Does the debater use appropriate intonation patterns?	

# Reference answers

## Step 2: Make pre-debate preparations

### A. Aristotle on friendship

#### 翻译:

对于亚里士多德而言，友情可以分为三类：实用型友情，愉悦型友情和美德型友情。实用型友情的基础是双方能够相互利用。愉悦型友情视双方所能获得的快乐多少而定。实用型友情和愉悦型友情都允许一个人有多位朋友，而美德型友情与这两种关系不同，只能存在于一对一的关系里。只有两个人德行一致（或非常相似），且都是品格高尚的人，才能发展这种美德型友情。

### B. Confucius on friendship

#### 翻译:

Confucius says: "There are three kinds of friendship that are helpful, while other three that are harmful. Friendship with the upright, the honest and the learned is helpful. Friendship with the wicked, the flatterers and the glib-tongued is harmful."

## Step 3: Write an outline

### Outline

**Your stance:** Face-to-face friends are better than online friends.

**Definition of friendship:** a feeling of comfort and emotional safety with a person, relation that survives the trials and tribulations of time and remains unconditional

**Advantages of face-to-face friends:**

Argument 1: participate in sports with you

Supporting evidence: iExplore 2 Reading (para. 5)

Argument 2: spend time with you even when you are not talking or communicating

Supporting evidence: iExplore 2 Reading (para. 5)

Argument 3: allow deeper and longer relationship

Supporting evidence: iExplore 1 Reading (implied)

**Possible disadvantages which might be used by the opposing team:**

Argument 1: Face-to-face friends may lose contact when they move away from where you live.

Argument 2: Some shy or introverted people may find it hard to communicate with people face to face.

Argument 3: People are much busier today than they used to be. They don't have enough time to develop deeper relationship.

**Rebuttal of the opposing team's arguments:**

Rebuttal 1: With Internet and smart phones, we can keep in touch with our face-to-face friends wherever they are.

Rebuttal 2: Introverted people can learn how to make friends in real life by seeking psychological advice or obtaining some public speaking training.

Rebuttal 3: People may choose to spend more quality time with their friends either in work or in leisurely pursuit or both. In other words, they just spend time with their friends as much as possible.

### Outline

**Your stance:** Online friends are better than face-to-face friends.

**Definition of friendship:** a feeling of comfort and emotional safety with a person, relation that survives the trials and tribulations of time and remains unconditional

**Advantages of online friends:**

Argument 1: Playing games with online friends is possible and more exciting.

Supporting evidence: iExplore 2 Reading (para. 2)

Argument 2: Online friends are more open and direct.

Supporting evidence: iExplore 2 Reading (para. 3)

Argument 3: The most important advantage of online friends is the possibility of finding friends without any geographical restriction.

Supporting evidence: iExplore 2 Reading (para. 4)

**Possible disadvantages which might be used by the opposing team:**

Argument 1: Some teenagers may fall victim to online friendship.

Argument 2: Some couples break up because their Facebook relationship gets in the way of their real-life marriage.

Argument 3: Since online friends are just a click away, you may end up with a lot more friends than you can handle. For example, remembering their names could be a daunting job. Following their updates each day could take too much of your time.

**Rebuttal of the opposing team's arguments:**

Rebuttal 1: Parents, schools and other communities need to make joint effort to help youngsters learn how to protect themselves from possible danger and how to make best use of the Internet for personal communication.

Rebuttal 2: Married couples can share their Facebook contact and meanwhile spend more quality time with each other.

Rebuttal 3: We can choose to follow or not to follow our friends' daily updates. At the same time, we can choose whose updates to read and whose not. It can save us a lot of time.

# Translation

## 真正的友谊正在消亡吗？

马克·弗农

- 1 近来，不管是推特网、脸谱网、领英网还是现代办公室里的无数闲聊，社交媒体正在改变着我们的生活方式，对于有心人而言，这一点显而易见。
- 2 确实如此，我们似乎感到突然之间好友数量井喷。不过，我们眼下也正在改变为人处世的方式。面对面的聊天正在被短信取代；相比打个电话，人们甚至更愿意使用这些电子交流方式。脸谱网上的熟人圈儿动辄数百人，相比之下，现实生活中规模较小的朋友圈则显得黯淡少光。在这些较细微的趋势中，越来越多的研究表明友谊的整个概念正在遭受危机，而我们也许正在迈向这个危机时代。所有这一切要把现代社会引向何方？也许现代社会就此陷入黑暗深渊，在这个深渊里，人与人之间交往的乐趣慢慢地被电子诱惑所取代。
- 3 在网络世界出现之初，有人就意识到了可能出现的问题。社会学家罗伯特·普特南曾经出版名为《独自打保龄球》一书。该书调查了从教堂到保龄球馆诸多社群中的社会资本正在逐步耗竭的现象。在美国以外的西方世界，一模一样的模式也已出现。在英国，精神健康基金会刚刚发表一篇名为《孤独的社会》的报告。报告指出将近一半的英国人认为他们活得比以前更孤独。三分之一的人愿意靠近家人居住，但是社会发展趋势正在迫使他们不断远离家人。
- 4 都市生活的压力一向难辞其咎。在伦敦，根据另外一次民调，五分之二受访者表明他们被社会潮流裹挟而日益远离自己最亲密的朋友。看看下班后的酒吧和饭店，到处人头攒动：我们有很多熟人，不过能够推心置腹的人可能少之又少。几位美国社会学家追踪调查了远离都市的更广范围内的相关现象。

根据《美国社会学评论》期刊上发表的文章，普通的美国人只有两个私交甚笃的朋友，而四分之一的美国人竟然连一个朋友都没有。

### 浅薄的友谊

- 5 值得一提的是，这些结论遭到其他社会学家的质疑。来自南加州大学的王华和来自多伦多大学的巴里·韦尔曼两位社会学家就提到“一些美国民众对社会关联性可能降低而感到恐慌”。请读者注意这两位社会学家的用词——“社会关联性”，这与“私交甚笃”不同。尽管社交媒体网站或类似的社交媒体增长迅猛，这些媒体所滋生的人际关系的质量如何则是关键性的因素，同时也是更难展开调查的因素。
- 6 不过我们知道，对于深厚友谊而言，少即是多。身处人群中却会感到寂寞。虽说鼠标一点就能建立联系，但是彼此要成为好朋友则需更多。网络交友，情薄如纸，与新词“加为好友”寓意契合，这一结论看似常识。
- 7 令人吃惊的是，孤独竟然被认为是一种精神疾病，而这好像颇为正确。至少从古希腊以来，政治哲学中一向认为我们是社会性动物。包括亚里士多德在内的一些思想家认为一个人可以拥有人生所能赋予的一切东西，包括事业、家庭和金钱，但是，一个人如果没有一位好朋友，那么他/她的生命从根本上说将是不完整的。一个阻碍人们深入交往的社会，则势必阻碍人们的健康成长。
- 8 当然，这并不是某个人的错。如今，交友压力来自方方面面。比如来自工作压力，或是整天瞎忙，无法和他人享有高质量的沟通时间。有人嘴上说友谊是生命中最重要的东西，却为了一份收入颇丰的工作远赴千里之外。这样的人还少吗？

### 问题始于童年

- 9 当然，我们在性格成型的最重要的孩提时期学会如何结交朋友或是如何断交。最近，关于儿童期和儿时生活对交友的影响的研究很有启发性。这些研究再一次关注了风气这个问题，其主要结论都与孩子缺少“计划外时间”有关。
- 10 “计划内时间”源自每一天的时间安排方式，何时上学，何时做家庭作业，何时进行音乐训练，甚至何时玩耍，一股脑儿地塞给孩子。然而，如今再寻常不过的是，没有任何一个时段是没有安排的。毕竟，现在谁还会让自己的孩子在街上闲逛呢？但是，恰恰就是这种“无所事事”的时间对于深厚的友谊至关重要。在这个时间段，我们只是闲逛，没有任务，没有最后期限，没有压力。就在那些时候，孩子也罢，成人也罢，才能真正了解同行之人。
- 11 如果结交密友确有秘笈可言，那么不过如此。无需设备，和别人多加交往。
- 12 亚里士多德曾经这样表达此意，妙不可言。他说，亲密的朋友，是“一起吃盐的朋友”。他并不是说朋友们坐在一起，在饭桌上把盐传来传去。他的意思是朋友们共享人生经历，分享各种滋味，苦的，甜的。亚里士多德还说过：“交友的想法常常匆匆而至，但是真正的友情往往姗姗来迟。”这对于当今这个时代来说是一种重要的真知灼见。因为，在这个时代里，虽然人们能迅速建立关系，不过我们反倒越发觉得需要更深一步结识他人。



- 1 人总是需要友谊的。人类是非常喜好交际的生物，因此，他们需要与他人交往互动。即使多年来人类自身并没有多少改变，但是交友方式和乐享友谊的方式却已改变。近来，我们可以通过互联网与从未谋面的人结为朋友。实际上，相比身边的朋友，网友具有几大优势。你可以以新型的、不同的方式与网友沟通。你可以更加深入坦诚地与网友分享感受。你可以交到情投意合的网友，而在过去，你是完全没有机会认识这些朋友的。
- 2 互联网提供了特殊的交流方式。以往，人们一对一地面聊、打电话，或是在晚会、学校这样的场合和许多人谈话。而只有互联网才使我们能够和全世界坐在不同房间里的各色各样的人群聊天。这种交流方式的一个例子就是越发流行的大型多人在线角色扮演游戏，俗称 MMORPGs。在这些网络游戏里，每位玩家选择一个角色，然后和其他玩家扮演的角色互动。对手玩家可能有 10 人、50 人、100 人或是 1,000 人。玩家们可以随时加入和退出游戏，当他们下次再加入游戏时，游戏内容就根据其他玩家们当时玩的情况有所改变。如果是和传统意义上的身边的朋友一起，这种玩法简直就是天方夜谭。你的玩家朋友不可能同时遍布中国、澳大利亚、德国、加拿大和其他国家，他们也不可能同时都在玩同一款游戏，而且边玩边聊天。
- 3 当你在网上交流时，感受也是特殊的。当我和朋友面对面交谈时，我比较踌躇不定，腼腆害羞。我不会把自己的想法全盘托出。相比而言，当我发电子邮件或是即时通讯时，我会更加真诚、坦荡。网络交流对我而言更加安全，更加隐秘，我不用担心被人指指点点、说三道四。我更加直接地表达自己的观点，敢说出自己从不敢说的话。我无法解释这是为什么，但是，我的朋友们也说有此感觉。当我收到电子邮件和即时通讯时，哪怕这些邮件和即时通讯来自我从未谋面的人，我觉得他们也比我现实生活中的朋友给予的个人信息要多。这种坦诚相见的表达方式让我颇感欣慰。
- 4 网上交友的最大优势就是交朋友不再受任何地理条件的限制。不管对方居住在哪个国家，你们都能成为亲密的朋友。同时，因为你在网上交流时更加真诚、坦荡，交朋友也就更快更容易。然后，如果你愿意，你就可以决定和对方见面。实际上，我就是在 MSN 上遇到我的女朋友的。我们聊了很久，还分享了一些各自的照片，所以我对她有了很多了解。然后我们见了面，此后我们就开始约会，直到现在。如果你只能和朋友面见，那么你能和住在附近的人、或是同所学校的人、或是同一单位的人见面。也许你会喜欢上他们中的某个人，也许不会。如果你不喜欢每天都遇见的人，那么你就不会有朋友。而在互联网上，你可以轻而易举地找到志同道合的朋友。
- 5 现实世界中的朋友和网络世界中的朋友都重要。和网络世界中的朋友不同的是，现实世界中的朋友可以和你一起参加运动，或是在你们不进行交谈时和你待在一起。因此，我并不是说人们不需要任何现实世界中的朋友。但是，如果你想尝试一种令人兴奋的新型的交友方式，如果你想毫无保留地和别人分享感受，如果你想找一个谈得来的知己或伴侣，不妨试试网络交友。当你打开电脑，你离分布在世界各地的新朋友们仅仅“一键之遥”。