



App Action

What is cyberbullying?

- **Bullying is repeated harmful behaviour. It can be physical, verbal, social or mental.**
- **Cyberbullying is bullying which happens through technology.**

Photo: A person messaging on a phone.

Social Media Sites Tackle Cyberbullying

Social media websites and apps are trying to tackle online bullying. They're creating new **features** to make it easier for people to stay safe online.

The Internet is a great way to stay connected with friends and family across the world but it's important to stay safe online.

One company has announced a new feature which would use **AI** to recognise language it thinks might be unkind, such as calling someone 'stupid'.

It would then ask the user to rethink the message and give them the chance to remove it.

Other social media sites allow you to **block** other people if they are being unkind. You can often also report their posts to get them removed.

Most social media sites also only allow users who are older than 13 to join to make sure everyone stays safe.

Cyberbullying is repeated harmful actions which happen through technology, such as the Internet, phones or computers. This could be unkind messages or comments.

If you or anyone you know receives hurtful messages, it's important to talk to a trusted adult straight away.

You could also save any evidence to show to an adult, as well as block the message or person.

It's always really important to talk to an adult you can trust if you come across anything which worries you or makes you uncomfortable. The Internet can be a lot of fun but it's important to stay safe!

Glossary

social media	Websites or apps that allow users to share content with other people.
features	Important parts of a website or app.
AI	Artificial intelligence; computer systems which are able to work without human instruction.
block	Prevent access to a profile.

Questions

1. Find a phrase the author uses to show that the Internet is useful for talking to people.

2. 'It would then ask the user to rethink the message.'

Tick the word or phrase which is closest in meaning to 'rethink' in this sentence.

- delete
- post
- reconsider
- rewrite

3. How old do you need to be to use most social media sites?

- 9
- 11
- 13
- 16

4. How do you think parents of teenagers will feel about these new features? Explain your answer.

5. Summarise the news story in 15 words or fewer.

6. Do you think other social media websites will include features to tackle cyberbullying? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Find a phrase the author uses to show that the Internet is useful for talking to people.
The Internet is a great way to stay connected with friends and family across the world.
2. 'It would then ask the user to rethink the message.'
Tick the word or phrase which is closest in meaning to 'rethink' in this sentence.
 - delete
 - post
 - reconsider
 - rewrite
3. How old do you need to be to use most social media sites?
 - 9
 - 11
 - 13
 - 16
4. How do you think parents of teenagers will feel about these features on social media?
Explain your answer.
Accept any reasonable answer which refers to the news story, e.g. I think they will feel relieved because it will make it easier to remove unkind messages on websites their teenage children spend time on.
5. Summarise the news story in 15 words or fewer.
Accept any reasonable answer which is 15 words or fewer, e.g. Social media websites are creating new features to help tackle cyberbullying, making the Internet safer.
6. Do you think other social media websites will include features to tackle cyberbullying?
Explain your answer.
Accept any reasonable answer which refers to the news story, e.g. I think other social media websites will include new features to tackle cyberbullying because these will make their users feel safer.