

FILM ENGLISH

What's on your mind?

Language level: Intermediate (B1) – Upper Intermediate (B2)

Learner type: Teens and adults

Time: 60 minutes

Activity: Vocabulary work, watching a short film, and speaking

Topic: Facebook

Language: Vocabulary related to social media.

Materials: Short film, vocabulary worksheet and discussion questions



Overview

This EFL lesson is designed around a short film by [Shaun Higton](#) and the theme of Facebook. Students practise vocabulary related to social media, watch a short film, and talk about Facebook.

Step 1

Give the students the social media vocabulary worksheet. Pair the students and ask them to read the sentences and try to work out the meaning of the words and expressions in bold.

Step 2

Elicit or explain the meaning of the words and expressions.

Step 3

Tell the students they are going to watch a short film titled *What's on your mind?* Ask them if they know what this expression means. Explain or elicit it literally means "what are you thinking?", but is now better known as the question used on the Facebook status. As the students watch their task is to identify why the film is called *What's on your mind?*

Show the film.

Step 4

Elicit or explain the film is called *What's on your mind?* because the film shows the man updating

his Facebook status and, it is about the man's true state of mind.

Step 5

Tell the students they're going to watch the film again. As they watch they should consider the following questions:

What status updates does the man make?

How is the man feeling at each stage of the film?

Step 6

Get feedback from the students.

Step 7

Show the film again, this time pause every time the man updates his Facebook status. Focus on:

- non-standard spelling such as *tonite*, *clubbin* and *gr8*.
- hashtags such as *#followyourdreams*, *#hunk*
- Expressions such as *quit my dead-end job*, *my life sucks* and *hide all posts*.

Step 8

Ask the students what the film's message is. Elicit or explain that the film shows that Facebook can make people unhappy as you may compare yourselves with other people who seem to have a happier more fulfilling life than you, and that people often exaggerate or lie on Facebook about what's happening in their lives.

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Ask the learners if they agree with the film's message.

Step 9

Give the students the social media discussion questions in which they practice the social media vocabulary from Step 1. Pair them and ask them to choose 6 of the questions to discuss.

Step 10

Hold a plenary discussion session based on the questions.

I hope you enjoy the lesson.

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