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## **Level 5**

### **Facebook "selfies" can harm relationships**

**18th August, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies-5.html>

A study shows that people who post too many photos of themselves ("selfies") on social networks risk harming their real-life relationships. Wikipedia says a selfie is "a genre of self-portrait...typically taken either with a camera held at arm's length or in a mirror." Britain's Birmingham University looked at how these photos affected the relationships of 508 participants. Their study found that sharing too many photos makes many people like you less. Researcher Dr David Houghton said only very close friends and relatives don't mind those who constantly upload selfies.

Wikipedia explains the popularity of selfies. It says: "In 2012, Time magazine noted that selfie was among its top 10 buzzwords." Celebrities like Rihanna and Justin Bieber are famous for uploading hundreds of pics of themselves. Many people who post selfies may be shocked by the research. Wikipedia explains that the appeal of selfies comes from the control they give people over how they look. People want selfies to show a flattering image, especially to friends whom the photographer thinks will like the photos. The research may show that the exact opposite is true.

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2392610/Could-selfies-spell-social-suicide-Oversharing-photos-face-make-unpopular-real-life-friends.html#ixzz2c7VRmgk8>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/13/too-many-facebook-photos-study\\_n\\_3749053.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=mostpopular](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/13/too-many-facebook-photos-study_n_3749053.html?utm_hp_ref=mostpopular)  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selfie>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. social                             | a. relatives don't mind    |
| 2. risk harming their                 | b. of 508 participants     |
| 3. a genre                            | c. real-life relationships |
| 4. a camera held                      | d. upload selfies          |
| 5. the relationships                  | e. people like you less    |
| 6. sharing too many photos makes many | f. networks                |
| 7. very close friends and             | g. of self-portrait        |
| 8. those who constantly               | h. at arm's length         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Wikipedia explains the       | a. over how they look    |
| 2. among its top 10             | b. of selfies            |
| 3. famous for uploading         | c. image                 |
| 4. people who post selfies      | d. popularity of selfies |
| 5. the appeal                   | e. may be shocked        |
| 6. the control they give people | f. opposite is true      |
| 7. show a flattering            | g. hundreds of pics      |
| 8. the exact                    | h. buzzwords             |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies-5.html>

A study shows that people (1) \_\_\_\_\_ photos of themselves ("selfies") on social networks risk harming (2) \_\_\_\_\_ relationships. Wikipedia says a selfie is "a genre of self-portrait...typically taken either with a camera held (3) \_\_\_\_\_ or in a mirror." Britain's Birmingham University looked at how these photos affected the relationships of (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Their study found that sharing too many photos makes many (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Researcher Dr David Houghton said only very close friends and relatives don't mind those who (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Wikipedia explains (7) \_\_\_\_\_ selfies. It says: "In 2012, Time magazine noted that selfie was among its (8) \_\_\_\_\_." Celebrities like Rihanna and Justin Bieber are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ hundreds of pics of themselves. Many people who post selfies may be shocked by the research. Wikipedia explains (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of selfies comes from the control they give people (11) \_\_\_\_\_. People want selfies to show a flattering image, especially to friends whom the photographer thinks will like the photos. The research may show that the (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# SELFIES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about selfies in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

