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Class: 5E

Topic: Online Sharing

Online Sharing – A Blessing Or A Curse?

Gone are the days when city dwellers wrote a diary to record their lives. Thanks to the rapid advancement of technology, people nowadays share their most precious memories via the Internet. It is a prevailing belief that it is helpful and not perilous. Is that really true? I suppose not. In the following, I will examine the dangers of sharing our personal information through the Internet.

In the first instance, sharing through the Internet poses multiple menaces, the largest of which is identity theft. It is common for people to post selfies or family pictures on social networking sites. However, lawbreakers can easily download your photos and create a brand-new account. The more you share, the greater the risks. Subsequent to stealing your identity, they can leave nasty comments on your friends' sites, access your personal banking information, or even use your identity to commit online scams. Hence, sharing your personal information and activities online can cause identity theft.

On top of that, personal safety in real life will also be threatened. As we post our daily routine on our social networking websites, we reveal all types of personal details such as our address, appearance, the institution we are working at, and more. In the wake of finding our details, criminals can find us in real life to harass us. It is daunting that some of them may rape, rob or even kidnap us, which is unbelievably horrendous. Take my friend, Wai Yee, as an example. She exposed her address on Facebook, then her ex-boyfriend went to her house every single day. Isn't that scary? As a corollary, personal safety in reality will be put at risk because of online sharing.

Some naysayers may argue that sharing via the Internet can shorten the distances between citizens. This argument, however, is totally unjustifiable. There will always be unscrupulous people to deceive us. Also, you will be in peril of cyberbullying, where you will lose trust in people. As a student, mischievous schoolmates may copy the photos that you have posted online; they may then Photoshop and expose them to others in order to tease you. After all this, there will be a rift between the victims and the bullies. It goes without saying that you will not only have a sense of isolation but also hopelessness. As a result, revealing personal details online will lead to cyberbullying, which creates a substantial gap between victims and bullies.

Granted, most people, if not all, love sharing their lives via the Internet. However, it may cause problems. You do not have to stop using the Internet, instead, you must use it wisely. Only if we act smartly will we escape danger.