

# Digital generation

1 Look at the opinions about using technology. Have you or someone you know ever said the same things? Discuss in pairs.



1 Through social media sites we surround ourselves with people who have the same beliefs and likes. These are the only people we can get along with now.



2 I hate it when I see a mother pushing her child on the swing and talking to someone else on the phone at the same time.

3 I stopped to watch some street theatre on my way home. Suddenly I realised I was the only one watching it. Everyone else was filming it.



4 Conversation is spontaneous. You never know what someone will say next. When you chat to someone online, you can control what you say.



5 Who's in charge? The Internet or you?

2 Match these views with the opinions in exercise 1. Which of these views is NOT expressed?

- a) We've forgotten how to enjoy the moment. Virtual reality is much more exciting than everyday life.
- b) Virtual reality is much more exciting.
- c) We are losing the art of conversation.
- d) Social media separates us into cliques.
- e) We ignore those around us because we are too busy texting or phoning.
- f) The way we live our lives is being controlled by our technology.

3 Work in pairs. Think of opposite points of view to those expressed in exercise 2. Write one or two ideas for each item.

4 With your partner, complete these sentences using some of your ideas, and the opinions in exercise 2.

- a) On the one hand, *they can record moments, relive them and share them with friends.*  
On the other hand, .....
- b) There is no doubt that .....  
However, .....
- c) .....  
In spite of this, .....  
What's more, .....

5 Which of the phrases in exercise 4 are used to express contrasting points of view? Which phrase is used to provide an additional point of view?