**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Social Media Ban**

**Voor de docent**

In Australië is een wet goedgekeurd die de toegang tot sociale media voor minderjarigen onder de 16 jaar verbiedt. Het is de meest restrictieve wet ter wereld.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen B1

*Lezen om informatie op te doen: Kan hoofdthema en belangrijkste argumenten begrijpen in eenvoudige teksten in tijdschriften, kranten of op internet. (LEB1-3d)*

Leesstrategieën – *Kan de betekenis van zo nu en dan voorkomende onbekende woorden afleiden uit de context en de betekenis van zinnen herleiden, op voorwaarde dat het besproken onderwerp bekend is.*

*Should kids be banned from social media?*

Assignment 1

You may use English-language Internet sources or a dictionary to help you.

a Write down all social media sites you know.

b Mark the social media sites that you yourself use.

c Name your favourite social media site.

**Social Media Ban**

Kids and social media is a hot topic in many countries. Now Australia is taking action.

[Find out more about Australia’s plans for banning social media for kids.](https://newsforkids.net/articles/2024/12/03/australia-bans-social-media-until-age-16/)

Assignment 2

Find the words in the text.

Connect the words and expressions that have the same meaning.

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| 1. bans | *a.* to become official or active; to begin to work |
| 2. social media | *b.* fair, practical and sensible |
| 3. law | *c.* to find out |
| 4. passed (a law) | *d.* forbids people from using something |
| 5. to prevent | *e.* formally agreed to a law |
| 6. go into effect | *f.* to influence, to impact |
| 7. reasonable | *g.* intimidated, pushed around, made fun of, picked on, terrorized |
| 8. fined | *h.* punished by being ordered to pay a sum of money when you have done something illegal |
| 9. affect | *i.* a rule that deals with a particular agreement, crime, etc. |
| 10. (to be) in favor of | *j.* a special note that warns people that something is dangerous to their health |
| 11. mental health | *k.* to stop (someone) from having or doing more of something |
| 12. bullied | *l.* to stop (someone) from doing something |
| 13. (to) figure out | *m.* to support something and agree with it |
| 14. health warning | *n.* the condition of someone’s mind |
| 15. to limit | *o.* websites or apps where users can share their ideas, pictures, and videos with other users of the same service |

Assignment 3

a True or false?

1 Companies that do not follow the new law can get a fine of 32 million US dollars.

2 Sites like Facebook and TikTok will be banned for kids when the new law takes effect.

3 The Australian government wants to protect kids with the new law.

4 The new Australian law will be effective from January 2025.

5 The new law will also prevent kids from using YouTube.

6 Under the new Australian law kids under 16 will be banned from social media.

b What is the official name of the new Australian law?

1 The Australian Social Media ban.

2 The Law to Protect Young People From Social Media.

3 The Social Media Minimum Age bill.

4 The Social Media Under 16 act.

c For each statement, say if it is an argument for or against the new law.

1 If kids cannot use regular social media, they might visit more dangerous sites.

2 Kids have been bullied online and later hurt themselves.

3 Kids might find it harder to find friends and support.

4 Social media can harm kids’ mental health.

Extra Assignment

1 Name at least 1 argument for and 1 argument against a social media ban.

(*Try to think of your own arguments.*)

2 Discuss your arguments with a classmate or the whole class.