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Level 2 – 20th June 2024

Top US doctor wants social media health warnings

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

Social media has changed the world, for good and for bad. The USA's top doctor said one bad thing is it can cause mental health problems. Dr Vivek Murthy wants social media companies to put mental health warnings on their sites. He is worried about the harm social media does to young people. He said youngsters see too much extreme sexual and violent content. Murthy said: "It is time to require a...warning label...stating that social media is associated with significant mental health harms for adolescents." He said laws were also needed to keep young people safe online.

Dr Murthy has wanted tighter controls of social media for many years. In 2023, he warned that social media could harm the mental health of children. His recent warning is published in The New York Times. He wrote: "The mental health crisis among young people is an emergency. Social media has emerged as an important contributor." He also said young people spend too long online. He warned that teenagers "who spend more than three hours a day on social media face double the risk of anxiety and depression symptoms".

Sources: <https://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/us-surgeon-general-calls-social-media-platforms-display-mental-health-warnings>
<https://www.theverge.com/2024/6/17/24180005/surgeon-general-warning-labels-social-media-mental-health>
<https://apnews.com/article/surgeon-general-social-media-mental-health-df321c791493863001754401676f165c>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Social media | a. violent content |
| 2. for good | b. on their sites |
| 3. it can cause mental health | c. has changed the world |
| 4. put mental health warnings | d. much |
| 5. the harm social media does | e. problems |
| 6. youngsters see too | f. to young people |
| 7. extreme sexual and | g. safe online |
| 8. keep young people | h. and for bad |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. tighter | a. among young people |
| 2. harm the mental health | b. the risk |
| 3. mental health crisis | c. symptoms |
| 4. Social media has | d. contributor |
| 5. an important | e. controls of social media |
| 6. spend more than three hours | f. of children |
| 7. double | g. a day |
| 8. anxiety and depression | h. emerged |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

Social (1) _____ the world, for good and for bad. The USA's top doctor said one bad thing is it (2) _____ health problems. Dr Vivek Murthy wants social media companies to put mental health warnings on their sites. He is worried (3) _____ social media does to young people. He said youngsters see (4) _____ sexual and violent content. Murthy said: "It is time to require a...warning label...stating that social media (5) _____ significant mental health harms for adolescents." He said laws were also needed to keep young (6) _____.

Dr Murthy has (7) _____ of social media for many years. In 2023, he warned that social media could harm the mental health of children. His (8) _____ published in The New York Times. He wrote: "The mental health crisis among young people (9) _____. Social media has emerged as an important contributor." He also said young people (10) _____ online. He warned that teenagers "who spend more than three hours (11) _____ social media face double the (12) _____ and depression symptoms".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

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SOCIAL MEDIA HEALTH WARNINGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2406/240620-social-media-health-warnings-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about social media health warnings 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) _____

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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) _____

