

teach 2

Life in a Connected Culture (15 minutes)

▶ **SHOW** the video “**Perspectives on Social Media**” and discuss the following questions with students.

ASK:

What are some of the upsides and downsides of digital life, according to the teens in the film? What do you think the upsides and downsides are in your own life?

Sample responses:

Upsides	Downsides
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I learn a lot from the Internet.• Projects in school can be more fun and interesting with technology.• I have a good time playing video games or participating in virtual worlds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I don't like some of the things people send me.• Some of the things I end up doing with digital media are a waste of time.• I spend more time alone than I used to.

ASK:

What are some of the upsides and downsides of digital media for relationships?

Sample responses:

Upsides	Downsides
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People can connect with lots of others quickly.• People are connected to a larger community than the people they know offline.• People can get to know others who are geographically far away.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People can say nasty things when they are anonymous.• Sometimes it is easier to misinterpret what people mean online.• Damaging information can spread quickly online.

ASK:

What are some of the benefits of digital media for our country as a whole? What are some of the problems it might cause?

Sample responses:

Benefits	Problems
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People have access to more information and can learn about almost anything online.• We produce innovative technologies for medicine and other important fields.• Many tasks can be done faster with technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People do not spend as much time talking face to face.• People can get addicted to technology.• People can become lazy and depend on technology instead of using their brains.