

Channel View School for Research
Summer Reading – Seventh Grade
Due Friday, September 15, 2017

Assignment #1

- Students must read the book required for the grade which they will **enter** in the fall.
- Students must also read at least one of the other books from the appropriate grade list.

Assignment #2

For **each book**, students must

1. Complete a one paragraph summary of what each book is about.
2. Write the “Lost” chapter of the book – What would the next chapter be? (3 – 5 paragraphs)

Grade 7

Students will read one required book and one book from the list.

Required: The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis

Choose 1: Wringer by Jerry Spinelli
 The Lions of Little Rock by Kristen Levine
 Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
 The Outsiders by S.E Hinton
 The Uglies by Scott Westerfeld
 Journey to the Center of the Earth by Jules Verne
 Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Assignment #3

1. Read the two articles that are assigned for your grade/topic. They can be found at
 voices.yahoo.com/the-pros-cons-facebook-3886118.html and
 www.buzzle.com/articles/pros-and-cons-of-facebook.html
2. **CENTRAL QUESTION:**
 7th grade- Is Facebook a positive or negative social media?
 Pick one side of the argument in this debate. Cite textual evidence from both articles to support the position of your choice. Within your essay, identify the counter-position and why it is inaccurate. You must use the graphic organizer to plan your essay and hand it in with your assignment.
3. **Persuasive Essay:** You must compose a 4-5 paragraph persuasive essay explaining your position.
 - a. In your essay you must include an introduction, 2-3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion.
 - b. Your essay must answer the central question.

Article 1: The Pros and Cons of Facebook

[Mallory Cyr](#), Yahoo! Contributor Network

Jul 27, 2009

Facebook was created in 2004. I joined that same year (or maybe the next, it was a long time ago) before it was the phenomenon it has since become. Many of my friends refer to me as "the Facebook queen." People I work with look to me to "utilize Facebook as a networking tool" (an idea I think can become a complete disaster if not treated carefully, but more on that later). I have seen facebook evolve and devolve over the years. I remember when the newsfeed was new, and the only thing people griped about on facebook, but now, a few years later it seems that facebook has reached a whole new level of social networking chaos. And yet... I am still addicted. Why? How can you make the most of the crazy cyber universe that is facebook? And, what are those things that I will just never click "become a fan of?"

Pros:

Hello old friend!

The one thing I think I will always love about facebook is the ability to reconnect with people. I have many friends who I did not go to school with, met during one event out of state and thought I may never see again. Enter Facebook! If you know a first and last name- and remember what that person looked like, you're golden. Know a school or location and you are pretty handed a rekindled friendship. Of course there are the people who don't take the step to upload a picture, or make it a picture of their dog, or a tree, who make the hunt a little more difficult. In which case you run the risk of "friending" someone who you don't even know (or is actually the pictured tree or dog), or you just don't feel like reaching out to what could be a stranger. There is also the tricky aspect of females often changing their last name when they get married. Since facebook has become such a commonly used site, lots of people have taken to using both their maiden and married last name, in which case, mission accomplished! Otherwise, you're going to have to up the level of detective work you do!

Shameless Self-promotion!

How many times has somebody said to you, "Oh send me your e-mail (phone number, mailing address, etc.)" And it has completely slipped your mind, thus leaving you with a missed networking or friendship (or relationship) opportunity. With Facebook, this doesn't happen! You can provide whatever information you feel comfortable sharing, and it can be viewed without you having to send or share anything (besides accepting the initial friend request of course!) The same applies for web address, which is great for promoting businesses or spreading the word about a great cause. You have to be careful of course, because this can be a double-edged sword. Just remember to use common sense, and if you don't want just anybody calling your cell phone, it is probably wise not to post the number on your profile!

Mass-Updates

As previously mentioned, I know a lot of people that I don't see in person very often, as well as extended family all over the East Coast, so it's quite difficult to keep everyone in my life updated about what may be going on! Of course it isn't because I don't care, or that I don't want them to know, but who really can sit down and write a monthly newsletter or e-mail all their aunts and uncles as much as they would like? Probably not many. With Facebook, when you do post an update, whether in the form of a status update (Mallory is: getting ready for her trip to New York!) or a new photo album of your new puppy, you can select who of your friends can view it! You can also have a way to directly contact any one of your friends, without having to e-mail them. Because really- how many emails do most people get every day? Upwards of 100 sometimes, but how exciting is it when you see that you have an unread message in your Facebook inbox, something that someone didn't want to post on your wall? Exaaactly!

Cons:

EVERYONE wants to be your friend

Everyone takes the term "friend" differently. For me, it means people I am actually friends with, even if we only spoke briefly at a party but decided; mutually we would like to keep in touch. But facebook has given new meaning to the word "friend." Now, everyone thinks they are your friends, whether you graduated the same year in high school- even if you never SPOKE all four years, or you made eye contact from across the room at a keg party in college. For some reason some people believe that qualifies as reason to be your "friend" on facebook, and stay involved in the on goings of your life. Of course, whether or not you accept people as friends is up to you, but I choose to keep my friends closer, and the people I'm just not friends with.... Well.... as not friends.

Newsfeed!

Ooooh newsfeed. I remember when facebook didn't have a newsfeed and you actually had to work to find out information about people, and things were still semi-private. But now...with blips like "Mallory just had a sandwich for lunch." Or "Jeff Smith is no longer in a relationship" the whole world pretty much knows what happens, maybe even before you do! There was even a short period (whether this is still the case or not, I do not know) where facebook would report on newsfeed, what you purchased online! Talk about an over share of information! Hope it was "safe for work!"

Spam!

When facebook first began, it was pretty straightforward. You could post notes, events, pictures, and message your friends. Simple enough. Over time though, things have changed and now there is an abundance of "applications," and you are lucky if you can even find a friend's wall to leave a message. I

probably get about 20 invitations a day to join somebody's zombie mafia, water their "little green patch" or take the "what color of the rainbow are you?" quiz. Sure some of the applications are fun, and they're all great time wasters, which is really the ultimate purpose of facebook, but having notifications from people you don't even know, is just a drag to sort through. And even if you do block all the applications you keep getting invites for, more will come along before the week is over.

So much drama!

If I had a dollar for every time I heard "she said WHAT about you on facebook?" Or "oh my god, her boyfriend has sent me like 12 facebook messages, is that cheating???" I would probably be as wealthy as Mark Zuckerberg himself. Posting party pictures and having instant access to basically everyone you know is no doubt going to cause heat with the younger generations. I have witnessed friendships ending, teens getting in trouble at school, and trust in [relationships](#) decreasing all because of the alternate universe we call facebook. There is also the awkward situation of having colleagues from work trying to "friend" you. I have personally made the decision to not friend people I work with, nor do I use facebook as a professional networking tool. Facebook is something I have been using since before I even had a job, and although I do not post anything I wouldn't feel comfortable with the general public seeing, that is one way in which I keep my personal and professional life separate. I have also learned to just grit my teeth and nod when older professionals throw around the word facebook to sound modern and tech savvy even though they have no idea what the site is actually for. If I hear "let's make a facebook!" as the solution to something one more time, I may run off to an entirely tech free private island.

All in all, I do find facebook to be a great site. Like anything in this world it has its ups and downs, and some people will abuse it, while others make the most of it. We cannot go back to the days when there was no newsfeed, and there will always be that generation gap of people who remember when it was only limited to college students, and the grandmothers who write on peoples' walls like they are crafting a private e-mail. But regardless of what quizzes you post or when you joined, Facebook has been a huge milestone in the world of technology and I see it as always being the king of social networking sites, and I will continue to be its queen.

Article 2

Pros and Cons of Facebook

Ask the modern-age kid what the alphabet 'F' stands for, and it would be no surprise if he / she said, Facebook! Love it, hate it, there is absolutely no getting away from it. Here's a look at some of the many ways in which this experimental project of 5 Harvard University students affects our lives in some good, and some not-so-good ways.

Facebook Republic!

If it were a nation, Facebook, with 1 billion users would be the 3rd most populous country in the world!



Launched in February 2004, Facebook, today has over 1 billion active users; that is about 3 times the population of the United States! Even after 8 years, its popularity is still very much on the rise, and it has definitely passed the stage where it can be shrugged off as mass hysteria.

The site has constantly adapted, and even reinvented itself in many ways according to the needs, and often the greed of its users. Such has been its impact that people would much rather communicate with each other on Facebook than through emails, or at times even meeting in person! Here are some things that make it such a hit among people across all age groups and social backgrounds.

Like

- Registering on the site is an extremely smooth process.
- You would feel right at home with the uncluttered UI of the site.\
- It transcends all physical boundaries, and lets you connect with long-lost friends and distant family.
- If you choose to do so, you could share your thoughts and even post photographs of events in your daily life.
- The site offers you the freedom to choose whom you would like to share your 'updates' with.
- You can stay updated with all the current affairs of the world.
- You can be well informed about what goes on in the lives of the people who are close to you, but are separated by physical boundaries.
- You can interact with people with similar thoughts and ideas across the globe. You can even choose to be a part of groups with people who have a common cause or concern, or merely just a similar interest.
- The site provides you with a virtual time-line of your life through your Facebook updates over the years.
- The site gives you an opportunity to express yourself, and be heard.

- Facebook also serves as an excellent platform to message and even video chat with your friends.
- The many online games that are a part of the website, let you unwind and even promote social interaction with their many multiplayer functions.
- You can watch and share your favorite videos and photographs.
- You can 'promote' your product or even your updates if you choose to do so with other users. You can even choose your target audience, based on their interests, genders, age, geographic region, and even the kind of device they use to log on to the site.
- You can even organize events, and gather people for them rather effortlessly with the events application on FB.
- While this may sound like stating the obvious, the biggest pro for Facebook is the fact that it offers all these features for free (apart from the apps on sale at the FB Marketplace).

A man in Egypt named his firstborn daughter 'Facebook' as an expression of gratitude for the role it played in the Egyptian Revolution in 2011. Her official name is

Buzzie.com

Facebook Jamal Ibrahim

Unlike

- ⊗ Although a lot has been done to improve the site's security, it still has a lot of loopholes. Privacy is a major concern for most Facebook users, and you need to take care to see who you share your social feeds with.
- ⊗ You can be bombarded with updates about things that don't really interest you or are of your concern; these could be updates about your acquaintances or even about the pages that people in your friends list may randomly like.
- ⊗ Often there seems to be very little that separates your personal life from your social life.
- ⊗ The freedom of expression on 'FB' is often misused and many a time abused by people who seem to be virtually living on the site.
- ⊗ There is always the possibility of identity theft on the site.
- ⊗ There are loads of fake and bogus accounts on the site, with people looking to steal your personal information.
- ⊗ The games and the site itself can be very addictive.
- ⊗ In spite of the many security settings in place, your images can still be misused.
- ⊗ There have also been several instances of online stalkers.
- ⊗ You might often need to be the witness to unnecessary dramatization of even the pettiest of things in people's lives.
- ⊗ The frequent updates, although meant to improve the overall user experience, also means that you need to update your security settings often to keep up with the changes.
- ⊗ Of late there has been a rise in the number of commercial adverts on the website, which can be quite annoying, and hampers the overall user experience.

Having said all this, I would still state that Facebook undoubtedly is a fantastic invention, which has brought the world closer together. At the same time though, we've never been further apart from each other. At the end of the day, let us remember that it is our lives that govern our interests and not the other way round.

Read more at Buzzle: <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/pros-and-cons-of-facebook.html>

Argumentative Essay Graphic Organizer

Introductory Paragraph

Hook the audience:

Give a little background on the issue:

Main Idea Sentence:

Body Paragraph #1

Reason #1

List out your Evidence of Support

Body Paragraph #2

Reason #2

List out your Evidence of Support

Body Paragraph #3

Counterclaim

List out your Evidence of Support

Conclusion Paragraph

Restate Your Main Idea