Text A

Teens turning to TikTok and Instagram for news, Ofcom says

Paragraph 1
Teenagers are increasingly consuming news via platforms such as TikTok, Instagram and YouTube, according to Ofcom. More teenagers are turning away from traditional media outlets and getting their news from social media, new research from Ofcom has shown. The number of people consuming news content on TikTok has increased from 800,000 in 2020 to 3.9 million in 2022. For the first time, Instagram is the most popular news source among younger people - used by 29% of teens in 2022 - with TikTok and YouTube close behind. But print, TV and radio news outlets still dominate in older age groups. The growth in news consumed via TikTok is being driven mainly by younger age groups - half of users consuming news on the platform are aged 16-24. The number of people consuming news via the video-sharing platform is now similar to the number using the Sky News website and app, Ofcom said. TikTok users who took part in the study said they get more of their news from "other people they follow" (47%) than from news organisations' own accounts (24%).

Paragraph 2
Increasingly, news stories also originate on the platform. Earlier this week, a video showing a student being harassed by a man on a Cardiff street was watched more than two million times and picked up by news outlets. And the recent high-profile libel case between Amber Heard and Johnny Depp dominated the video sharing platform, with many users watching the proceedings unfold live on YouTube before selecting clips to share with their followers on TikTok.

Paragraph 3
Yih-Choung Teh, Ofcom’s group director for strategy and research, said in a statement that teenagers nowadays are "increasingly unlikely to pick up a newspaper or tune into TV news", preferring to stay informed by "scrolling through their social feeds" and "giving a story some love". "And while youngsters find news on social media to be less reliable, they rate these services more highly for serving up a range of opinions on the day's topical stories," he added. That teenagers are using Instagram and TikTok for news is probably not a surprise. It was perhaps more surprising that, right up until 2020, BBC One remained their number one source of news and still remains top of the list for "most important source". The research shows 59% say they still watch some news on TV.

Paragraph 4
The decline of printed newspapers has been apparent for many years, but the drop in the last two years has been startling. In 2020, 35% of the population (the vast majority over the age of 55) were still reading a paper, but that’s now dropped to 24%. And what's easily forgotten is that the biggest source of news for teens isn't Instagram but their families (65%), and mum or dad are probably not relying on TikTok just yet.

Paragraph 5
The Ofcom report also shows an acceleration in the decline in consumption of traditional outlets, particularly among young people. BBC One and BBC Two, previously the most popular news sources among teenagers, have been knocked off the top spot and are now down in fifth place. For adults in the UK the picture is a little different however, as BBC One remains the most used news source. TV news generally remains the most trusted source among most (71%) adults, with news on social media deemed to be the least reliable (35%).
Media Consumption in the Age of COVID-19

As the coronavirus outbreak continues to wreak havoc across the globe, people’s time that would have otherwise been spent going to live events is now being spent on the sofa. During this period of pandemic-induced social isolation, it’s no surprise that people are consuming vast amounts of media. Today’s graphics use data from a Global Web Index report to explore how people have increased their media consumption because of the outbreak, and how it differs across each generation.

More Time to Kill

Global Web Index found that over 80% of consumers in the U.S. and UK say they consume more content since the outbreak, with broadcast TV and online videos (YouTube, TikTok) being the primary source across all generations and genders. Unsurprisingly, 68% of consumers are seeking out pandemic updates online over any other activity. The younger generation (10-23) however, have other plans, as they are the only generation more likely to be listening to music than searching for news.

Leaning on a Pillar of Trust

Across the board, consumers view the World Health Organization (WHO) as the most trusted source of information for any COVID-19 related updates. This isn’t true everywhere on a regional basis, however. For example, while U.S. consumers trust WHO the most, UK consumers view their government as their most trusted news source overall.

Trust in information shared on social media is higher than word of mouth from friends and family, and even foreign government websites. That said, it is lower than information shared on the radio or news websites.

Damaged by Screen time?

While staying abreast of pandemic updates is important, ultimately, a positive mindset and the ability to switch off will help people cope better day-to-day. Therefore, it seems reasonable that people are more inclined to invest in new subscription services since they have been in isolation, with almost one-third of people between 10-25 considering purchasing Netflix, followed by Disney+.

Understandably, people are becoming increasingly worried about how much time they are dedicating to their screens - switching off can be difficult. However, research suggests that screen time itself is no cause for concern. Rather, it’s the content we choose to consume and who we share this experience with that could have a significant impact on our psychological well-being. Perhaps most intriguingly, the TV shows and movies that are increasing in popularity on Netflix are about pandemics—which could indicate the need for people to fictionalize the chaos we find ourselves in.
Half of people now get their news from social media

24 July 2019

Half of adults in the UK now use social media to keep up with the latest news, according to Ofcom’s annual news consumption report.

Our study, News consumption in the UK: 2019, looks at how adults and older children in the UK access news content across television, radio, print, social media, other internet sources and magazines.

It found that while TV is still the most popular way for people to access news, its use has fallen since last year, from 79% to 75% of adults. At the same time, use of social media for news has risen from 44% to 49%.

Other findings include:

After TV, the internet is the next most popular platform for news in 2019, used by 66% of adults. Radio comes next, at 43%. Over a third of adults (38%) get their news from traditional print newspapers but when combining print with newspaper websites and apps, this increases to 49%.

BBC One remains the most popular news source, despite a fall in use since last year, from 62% to 58%. Use of the BBC News Channel and BBC Two for news has also fallen since last year.

After BBC One, ITV (40%) and Facebook (35%) are the next most commonly-used news sources.

While use of Facebook for news has remained stable year on year, more people are using Twitter (up from 14% to 16% since last year), WhatsApp (up from 10% to 14%) and Instagram (up from 9% to 13%).

Magazines are rated more favourably than any other news source for quality, trustworthiness and impartiality.

Social media platforms tend to be rated least favourably on these measures. For example, only 37% of people who use social media for news said they thought it was impartial, compared to 78% of users of magazines, 62% for TV, 61% for radio and 58% for print newspapers.

Six in ten children aged 12-15 claim to be interested in news. Three-quarters of children in this age group said they read, watched or listened to news at least once a week.

How do you access the news?
Section A
Read Text A and answer questions 1 to 4.

1. Your friend wants to know more about the way our interactions with news have changed. Using Text A, identify two news sources that were previously the most popular among teenagers.

(a) ________________________________ (1)

(b) ________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)

Answer Question 2 with a cross in a box ☑️. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☑️ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☑️.

2. Which word best describes the style of Text A?

- disappointed
- conversational
- pessimistic
- serious

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

Answer Question 3 with a cross in two boxes ☑️. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☑️ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☑️.

3. Which two of these quotations from Text A are examples of informal language?

- ‘the most trusted source’
- ‘scrolling through their social feeds’
- ‘high profile libel case’.
- ‘the vast majority’
- ‘giving a story some love’

(Total for Question 3 = 2 marks)

4. You have been asked to add subheadings to each paragraph in Text A. Number each subheading from 1 to 5 to show which best matches each paragraph. Two have been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subheading</th>
<th>Paragraph number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Story Big Engagement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Decline of Print!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Popularity!</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What About Television?</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Reliable?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Total for Question 4 = 2 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 7 MARKS
SECTION B

Read Text B and answer questions 5 to 8.

5 What does each of these quotations from Text B suggest about how we interact with the news?

‘fictionalize the chaos’ ____________________________________________________________ (1)

‘consuming vast amount of media’ _________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 5 = 2 marks)

Answer Question 6 with a cross in a box ☑. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☑ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☑.

6 Text B includes both facts and opinions. Which one of these statements is an opinion?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘over 80% of consumers in the U.S. and UK say they consume more content since the outbreak’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘TV shows and movies that are increasing in popularity on Netflix are about pandemics’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Switching off can be difficult’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘almost one-third of people between 10-25 considering purchasing Netflix’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Total for Question 6 = 1 mark)

7 (a) According to Text B, which age group trusts the World Health Organisation website as a source of news the least?
____________________________________________________________________________ (1)

(b) Which organisational feature is used to identify this information?
____________________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 7 = 2 marks)

8 (a) Using Text B, identify two reasons why people might be more inclined to invest in new subscription services since they have been in isolation.

1 __________________________________________________________________________ (1)

2 __________________________________________________________________________ (1)

(b) Using Text B, identify two reasons why screen time is no cause for concern.

1 __________________________________________________________________________ (1)

2 __________________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 8 = 4 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 9 MARKS
SECTION C
Read Text C and answer questions 9 to 11.

9 Using Text C, give two quotations that suggest printed sources of news are still popular and trusted.

(a) _________________________________________________________________________ (1)
(b) _________________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 9 = 2 marks)

10 Using Text C, identify two language features used to inform the reader about changes to news consumption.

Language feature __________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________ (1)
Example ________________________________________________________________ (1)

Language feature __________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________ (1)
Example ________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 10 = 4 marks)

Answer Question 11 with a cross in a box ☑️. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☐️ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☑️.

11 Which one of these quotations from Text C shows that the writer is positive about the changes in the consumption of news?

‘Over a third of adults (38%) get their news from traditional print newspapers’
‘Six in ten children aged 12-15 claim to be interested in news’
‘While use of Facebook for news has remained stable year on year’
‘Magazines are rated more favourably than any other news source for quality, trustworthiness and impartiality’

(Total for Question 11 = 1 mark)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 7 MARKS
12 You may use a dictionary to answer this question.

(a) ‘Magazines are rated more favourably’

Give one word or phrase to replace ‘favourably’ that keeps the meaning of this quotation from Text C the same.

__________________________________________________________________ (1)

(b) ‘The decline of printed newspapers has been apparent for many years’

Give one word or phrase to replace ‘apparent’ that keeps the meaning of this quotation from Text A the same.

__________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 12 = 2 marks)

13 Compare similar ideas from Text A and Text C about young people and their consumption of news through social media.

In your answer, you should:

- Give two similarities from these texts about young people and their consumption of news through social media.
- Give one quotation from Text A and one quotation from Text C to support each similarity.

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________________________________________________________________________

(Total for Question 13 = 6 marks)
Answer Question 14 with a cross in a box ✗. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ✗ and then mark your new answer with a cross ✗.

14 Which one of these statements about the language used in used Text A and Text B is correct?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Both texts use expert opinions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Both texts use statistics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both texts use rule of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both texts use direct address.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Total for Question 14 = 1 mark)

15 Identify one piece of evidence from each of the three texts that shows that the way we access news is changing.

Text A ______________________________________________________________________ (1)
Text B ______________________________________________________________________ (1)
Text C ______________________________________________________________________ (1)

(Total for Question 15 = 3 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION D = 12 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 35 MARKS