

# Online Communication

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# What is an online community?

*Online community is for people online* who can communicate in numerous ways. People communicate with each other over the Internet, including e-mail, instant messaging, feedback on blogs, contact forms on Web sites, industry forums, chat rooms and social networking sites.

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## What is a network of friends?

A group of people who keep in up-to-date contact with each other.

# Give 4 examples of online communities using contemporary social media

1. Web logs(blogs)-updated online journals with diary like entries.
2. Microblogging sites- which allows users to create and exchange really short text entries.
3. Wikis- these are websites that provide information to the visitors to the site can extend and edit.
4. Chatrooms- online communities within communities is something referred to as chat.

# What is a blog?

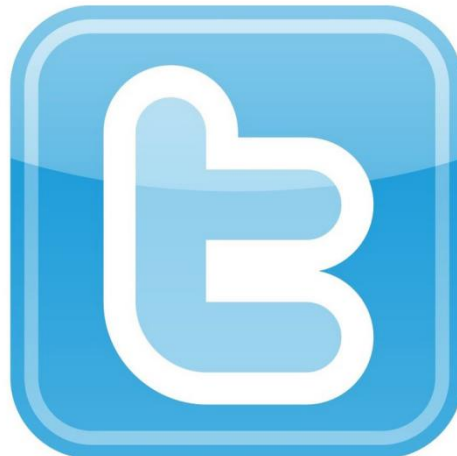
*A Blogs are frequently updated online journals with dairy like entries which allow people to express their thoughts and feelings and give details of their daily activities. Typically a blog includes text photos and sometimes videos.*



  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
READ MY  
BLOG**

# What is a microblogging site?

These are sites which allow users to create and exchange really short text entries. Some of the examples are facebook and twitter.



# What is a wiki?

*These are websites that provide information that visitors to the site can extend and edit. They allow users to share information and are useful for research. An example is Wikipedia, the online encyclopaedia which can be updated by contributors.*



# What is a chat room?

*online communication within communities is sometimes referred to as chat. Some of the large interactive communities where people take part in the conversation or type of chat at the same time are known as Chatrooms.*



# What are the advantages and disadvantages of instant messaging?

## Advantages

Responses are received instantly it also allows you to chat in real time

Instant messaging provides a way to exchange textual messages and its much cheaper you can also do face to face messages.

You can also use emotions to express a range of other expressions e.g. laughing, crying, winking, happiness and anger.

## Disadvantages

When you don't have any internet the message does not go through.

Uncertainty that the person you are talking to is the person you are talking to. This can be dangerous, especially for teens, as there's no guarantee of knowing who the person is or how old they are.

Not good voice quality. It can sometimes have long pauses.

# What is a podcast?

*Podcast are a series of audio or video files that can be downloaded from the internet. YouTube is an example where people can share video blogs.*



# What is a virtual learning environment?

A school community may make use of a virtual learning environment (VLE) to distribute resources, support learning and assess progress online. A VLE is an education system based on web facilities. The system is a virtual world which mirrors the real world of education – it contains learning materials, tests, projects, lectures/lessons and allows interaction between teachers and learners. The system also records and tracks learners' progress and performs other class management functions.

# How does a social network site work?

- Social networking sites, such as Facebook, Twitter™, LinkedIn, Google+ and MySpace, allow members of the online community to interact and communicate by setting up a profile . Users can then add links to friends' profiles and post personal information, including photographs, videos, favorite music and blog entries.

# What is VoIP?

- *Voice over internet protocol.*
- *Allows people to interact in real time*
- *E.g. Skype and face time*

# What are the advantages and disadvantages of VoIP?

## Advantages

It is free most of the time

You can talk anywhere in the world and at any time

It is also used for businesses and for online conferences and meeting which reduces travel cost and travel time.

## Disadvantages

Reliability – it depends on your broadband and may not work if there is a power cut

Voice quality - Voices can sometimes be distorted or there may be long pauses between questions and answers

Security - As with all internet technologies, identity theft, viruses, spamming and phishing are all potential threats. Also your account can get hacked.