

News: Facebook Selfies can harm Relationships

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130818-selfies.html>

A study from the U.K. **(1)** _____ that people who post too many "selfies" (photos of themselves) on Facebook and similar social networks risk damaging their real-life relationships. Wikipedia says a selfie is "a **(2)** _____ of self-portrait photograph...typically taken either with a camera held at arm's **(3)** _____ or in a mirror." The report, from Birmingham University, analysed the impact of these photos **(4)** _____ the relationships of 508 participants. The study found that excessive photo sharing and sharing **(5)** _____ types of photos makes almost everyone like you less. Head researcher Dr David Houghton said: "People, **(6)** _____ than very close friends and relatives, don't seem to relate well to those who constantly share photos of themselves."

Wikipedia explains the rise **(7)** _____ popularity of selfies. It says: "In December 2012, Time magazine noted that selfie was among its top 10 **(8)** _____ of 2012." Celebrities such as singers Rihanna and Justin Bieber are famous for uploading hundreds of pics of themselves. Many people who post selfies will be surprised, perhaps shocked, **(9)** _____ the Birmingham research. Wikipedia explains: "The appeal **(10)** _____ selfies comes from...the control they give self-photographers over how they present themselves. Many selfies are intended to present a **(11)** _____ image of the person, especially to friends whom the photographer expects to be supportive. The research may suggest the **(12)** _____ opposite is true.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) predicates | (b) indicates | (c) inculcates | (d) dedicates |
| 2. | (a) generous | (b) genuine | (c) genie | (d) genre |
| 3. | (a) longest | (b) length | (c) long | (d) longing |
| 4. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) On | (d) to |
| 5. | (a) certain | (b) sure | (c) positive | (d) strange |
| 6. | (a) other | (b) another | (c) others | (d) the others |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) of | (c) for | (d) in |
| 8. | (a) buzzwords | (b) antonyms | (c) neologism | (d) slang |
| 9. | (a) in | (b) by | (c) So | (d) of |
| 10. | (a) as | (b) at | (c) Of | (d) if |
| 11. | (a) flattening | (b) fluttering | (c) flattering | (d) flittering |
| 12. | (a) exactness | (b) exact | (c) exacted | (d) exactly |

Synonym Match

Match the following words with their synonym.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Study | a. attraction |
| 2. Risk | b. too much |
| 3. Genre | c. always |
| 4. Excessive | d. meant |
| 5. Constantly | e. jeopardize |
| 6. Rise | f. report |
| 7. Appeal | g. encouraging |
| 8. Intended | h. complimentary |
| 9. Flattering | i. category |
| 10. Supportive | j. increase |

Phrase Match

Match the beginning of the phrase with the end of the phrase.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. risk damaging their | a. held at arm's length |
| 2. a genre of self- | b. opposite is true |
| 3. with a camera | c. share photos of themselves |
| 4. excessive | d. popularity of selfies |
| 5. those who constantly | e. photo sharing |
| 6. the rise in | f. buzzwords of 2012 |
| 7. among its top 10 | g. real-life relationships |
| 8. The appeal | h. image of the person |
| 9. present a flattering | i. portrait photograph |
| 10. research may suggest the exact | j. of selfies |

1. Who risks damaging their real-life relationships?
 - a) photographers
 - b) people who upload self-portraits
 - c) Facebook users
 - d) U.K. researchers
2. What genre of photograph is a selfie?
 - a) digitally-enhanced
 - b) an ego-booster
 - c) non-landscape
 - d) a self-portrait
3. Where do people usually hold the camera for a selfie?
 - a) hand to hand
 - b) shoulder to shoulder
 - c) at arm's length
 - d) by the skin of their teeth
4. How many people took part in the research?
 - a) 508
 - b) 805
 - c) 850
 - d) 580
5. Who doesn't mind looking at selfies?
 - a) researchers
 - b) family and friends
 - c) new Facebook fans
 - d) colleagues
6. What honour did Time magazine give the word "selfie"?
 - a) one of the 2012 buzzwords
 - b) tech word of the year
 - c) word of the decade
 - d) top word for the next decade
7. Who is famous for uploading hundreds of selfies?
 - a) two sports stars
 - b) two supermodels
 - c) two singers
 - d) two actors
8. What is the appeal of selfies?
 - a) control over the image
 - b) colour
 - c) Photoshop
 - d) you can become famous
9. What kind of images do people want from selfies?
 - a) ones that flatter
 - b) ones with fluttering eye lashes
 - c) flattened ones
 - d) flattering ones
10. How are friends expected to be about selfies?
 - a) always press the "Like" icon
 - b) critical
 - c) be supportive
 - d) always share them

Group Chat

1. Do you think Facebook has made friendships stronger or weaker?
2. What do you think of selfies?
3. Do you take selfies? Why or why not?
4. Do you like looking at selfies that other people post on Facebook?
5. Do you think people who post selfies are vain?
(*vain = someone who is too proud of their good looks, abilities, or position*)
6. What "rules" should there be about uploading photos on Facebook? Complete the table below.

Photos of...	Dos and Don'ts	Why?
yourself		
babies		
Pets		
holidays		
food		
parties		