

Digital Citizenship: Music Integrated Lessons

Lesson Title: Facebook: The Musical

Grade Level: High School



Essential Question:

How does social media affect you?

Note: No video accompanies this lesson.

Materials

- Lyrics to and recordings of "Facebook: The Musical" by AVbyte
- Highlighters, one per student

Discussion Guideline

1. Ask students: How do you use social media? Which sites do you use most? Why? What do social media sites offer or give you? What do you give to social media?
2. Explain that in today's lesson students will listen to a song that treats obsession with Facebook in a humorous way. Present the approach that humor can have a lot to do with commonality; we have to have experienced something to "get" the joke.
3. Distribute the lyrics to and listen to the recording of "Facebook: The Musical" by AVByte. Tell students to listen and look for things they can relate to in terms of how the singers use Facebook.
4. Discuss the sections of the song lyrics that resonate with them. (What struck you as particularly funny? Did any of the irony or critic strike you as a thought you have had before?) What might someone who had never used the site learn about Facebook from this song? Why?
5. Distribute the highlighters and have students highlight the lyrics that most relate to the commonalities between their own personal use of social media and the singer's use of social media.
6. Discuss how these commonalities establish the humor.
7. Discuss how this music is a humorous social commentary song: through humor, the artist addresses a perceived problem in society. **Social commentary** is a form of communication that seeks to express an opinion or deliver a message regarding a social issue, usually with the intent of creating change by appealing to the audience's sense of justice. Social commentary pieces do not always tell us what to think, but they do provide information about problems. Humorous social commentary pokes fun at the topic, but not all social commentary is humorous, as we will see in future lessons.
8. What is the message delivered by the social commentary of this song? Do you agree or disagree with the message? Why?

9. How is the social commentary delivered? Does one notice the commentary in the lyrics alone, or does the performance clarify the position of the commentary?
10. Have the students select a partner to work with to plan a social commentary song lyric about a social media site. They will write an original social commentary song lyric or rap (if they choose to create music as well, that's fine, but the lyrics are the required element of the assignment.) They will have two sessions to complete the social commentary lyrics. Each set of social commentary song lyrics should consider the following:
 - The name of the site
 - The purpose of the site
 - How people use the site
 - The "buzz words" of the site
 - How it makes the people who post things feel
 - How it makes observers feel
 - What makes someone "fluent" in the language of the site?
 - A message about the social media

Conclusion

Ask students to think about how they react to postings on Facebook and other social media sites. The next session will feature a different kind of song about social media.

Facebook: The Musical

By AVbyte

Time to check my Facebook.

Chorus:

Facebook, Facebook. Gotta check my Facebook.
Gotta take another look.
Nothing new.
I am hooked.

What to do? Hit refresh.

Facebook, Facebook. Gotta check my Facebook.
Gotta creep on all my friends.
Every day. There's no end.
It's the Facebook way.

Oh my God, 10 Likes. I'm so popular.

Like a post.
Poke a friend.
Friend request.
Post a pretty pic of your vacation.
Block your mom
Click an ad.
Stalk your ex.
Share your dumb political opinion.

Send a gift
Send a JIF
Send a GIF
Check to see who's celebrating birthdays.

Play a game
Candy Crush
Solitaire
Bug your friends with Farmville updates everyday.

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Gotta take another look.
Nothing new.
I am hooked.

What to do? Hit refresh.

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Gotta creep on all my friends.
Every day. There's no end.
It's the Facebook way.

Look who left their Facebook up! Ha!

Facebook really is the way to keep in touch with all
old school friends
With just a single like or comment you can bet your
friendship will not end.
Relationships mean close to nothing if they are put in
your about
And if you're not Facebook official than the whole
thing really does not count

You really should not get too comfortable with how
your Facebook looks today
'Cause knowing Zuckerberg he's is probably about to
change it anyway

Yes, Facebook has its little problems with security
and ads
Now maybe life without a Facebook would not end
up being all that bad

Chorus:

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Gotta take another look.
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What to do? Hit refresh.

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