

Lesson 6: Blogs

Purpose of Lesson 6: You will learn about **blogs**.

Skills: Creative thinking, reading comprehension, self-reflection, vocabulary, and writing.

Words to Learn:

anecdote - a brief story: *Many parents entertain their children by telling them family anecdotes.*

blog - an online journal in which other readers can comment and discuss the information with each other: *Many politicians write blogs on the Internet.*

blogosphere - the Internet area that blogs occupy: *The blogosphere reaches all over the world.*

blogroll - links to other websites listed on the blog: *I found some great travel sites on the social studies blogroll.*

Facebook - a popular, free, social networking website that allows registered users to send messages, create personal profiles, and upload photos and videos: *Scott and Kristin post pictures on Facebook all the time.*

lurker - someone who reads blogs but does not write comments: *Marianne is still a lurker who doesn't write any comments on the blog.*

manifest - refers to records kept by ship's staff: *The information found in the ship's manifest is interesting and informative.*

online - usually means being connected to the Internet: *Millions of people go online every day.*

post a comment - respond to blogs and other comments written in response to the information online: *It's fun to post a comment and read the comments of others.*







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website - a place on the Internet where you can get information on different topics: *Kate's favorite website is about creative writing.*

weblog or web log - is a website listing entries about a topic. This log begins with the most recent entry.

wiki - a type of website that allows the visitors to add, remove and edit the available content: *Schools are using wikis for class projects that use technology.*

Directions: Read the conversation below and do the exercises that follow.

1	2	
		
3	4	
		
5	6	
		

What are you doing on the computer, Dora? I need to use it for my social studies class.

I am **posting a comment** on our cousin's blog! We have a lot in common. I am so glad we can communicate this way.

Yes, the **blogosphere** reaches all over the globe these days. My social studies teacher has created a blog for our class. That's exactly why I need to get online.

It's much faster and easier to write to teacher online. She can answer you almost immediately. I like the way it works for my classes. We get to see other peoples' ideas and opinions about what we are learning.

I know. Omar likes the sporting blogs best. Even our parents use blogs now. **Facebook** sounds neat, too. I want to learn more about it.

You are so right. Mom is always on those knitting blogs. Dad is thinking of starting his own photography blog! We are a **wiki** wacky family! You mentioned Facebook. Many of my friends are on it. I might get on it, too.

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I'll wait for you to teach me about Facebook. I'm so glad cousin Gianni set up this reunion blog. It's much easier to connect with everyone in the family. Have you read some of the comments that were posted about next year's reunion?

8



Yes. I am going to post my own comments. You should, too. We need to keep in contact with all the relatives. I feel so lucky to have so many people to connect with that care about each other.

9



I really love the birthday section. Did you know that there are three other cousins with my birthday? There is also a music connection. So many of our relatives play the piano and never took lessons.

10



Wow! Just like Dad and Nana. I definitely want to find out more about our talented family. What do you have to do for your social studies class?

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Each day, one of the students is in charge of writing the blog to report on what activities we did in class. It's my turn today. We also have dialogue blogs and online assignments that are fun.

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We are lucky to be able to take advantage of all this technology. I thought you were just a **lurker**! I'd like to see your blog entry when you finish it.

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Weblogs, or blogs, as they are called in the computer world, can be about any theme or hobby imaginable. They are online journals that can be read by many people who can also write their own comments about the blog. Some blogs are private and others are public. The Mack family reunion blog not only replaced the original newsletter, it grew into a wonderful website where family members could network, and grow as a community. Cousin Gianni wrote the blog and all were invited to participate. Photos, old and new, were shared by the family. Let's look at the comments that were posted.

Mack Family Reunion

Posted by **Joe Mack** on Tuesday March 31, 2015 @ 02.43PM

Hey cousins! Thanks, Gianni, for the links to Massachusetts on the blogroll. I am going to plan a trip there and explore the area where my great-grandmother lived. I have many photos, but am not sure who is who. I may send them to Dorothea. Maybe someone will recognize a familiar face or two. By the way, you and I share the same birthday, except I am much older!

Posted by **Margaret Mack Lynch** on Monday March 30, 2015 @ 07.25PM

Great blog. This website is awesome. I can't tell you how much I look forward to our family reunion. My contribution to the Family History section of this blog is from the ship's **manifest** at Ellis Island. I found my Uncle Thomas and his nephew Louie when they arrived in NY in 1909 and a story about their adventures. Thanks again. Love this blog.

Posted by **Cousin Dorothea Lennon Mack** on Monday March 30, 2015 @ 11.50AM

I love the photo album idea and would like to purchase one. I have a suggestion about a family cookbook. You can send me your favorite recipe with photos and anecdotes. I will be glad to work on this project. My email is Dotcom@net.net. Did anyone ever locate Uncle Bernie? Last I heard he was in Africa. Kenya, I think

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Continued after Quiz 1



If you don't own a computer, you can always go to your local public library for help. Many libraries offer free computer classes, and are equipped with computers for your use. You can learn all about blogs by typing the word "blog" in the search box. You'll see why they call the Internet the "superhighway" of information. Become part of the computer generation. You'll see a whole new world through the eyes of the Internet. Try it. You'll like it!