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English Subject Matter Preparation

Research Essay + Lesson Plan

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Fall 2023

Language Influences younger generations:

Social Media affects students in more ways than one

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Dedication and Acknowledgements:

I would like to dedicate this paper to my Mother (Robin Torrecillas) and Father (Micheal Torrecillas). Thank you for everything you have done for me, thank you for your continuous support and helping me throughout life. I couldn't have gotten to where I am at without you two in my life. I love you two and couldn't have asked for better parents. Thank you Grandma for always supporting me, Thank you Katie and Liz for being such amazing sisters as well.

I would also like to thank my amazing girlfriend Marissa. Thank you for everything, and always supporting me through school. Thank you for being my best friend and thank you for being such an amazing support system for me.

I love you All

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Project Proposal:

1. Charles Torrecillas, HCOM with a concentration in English Subject Matter Preparation.
2. How has social media played a role in students' lives within the United States and the way they talk? Social media, primarily social networking sites, have been something that many use, more than we should. Over the years new words and phrases have come up such as, lit, tho, bet, cap, gucci, fire, lol, OMG, etc. that have influenced many people's vocabulary. Social media has also played a huge impact on students and their language, since they are the most susceptible to use this language. I wanted to focus on the language and linguistic side of the social media culture, as well as highlighting the impact it has regarding students' mental health.
3. This project aligns with the themes of this course by looking at the culture social media has. Since social media has such a massive growing culture surrounding it, there is a lot that can be uncovered and looked at from a multitude of perspectives. The project will also look at the ideology regarding the language choices and possibly how they came to be.
4. The main purpose of this project is to discover how social media's impact over the years has affected students' language. Many grew up without social media, and as times change and we evolve, so does our language. I hope to accomplish finding out how language has changed with regards to social media, as well as highlighting the mental health side as well. The main question I am pursuing is how Social media has affected younger generations (Students), but narrowing it down to primarily the language and mental health aspect of it. I am narrowing it down to these two subtopics within social media,

since I believe they do coincide with each other. Since language is evolving, it can also empower a person while also tearing them down.

5. Working title: Social Media affects students in more ways than one
6. Working Summary: This project will focus on briefly introducing Social Media (primarily social networking sites), and then diving into the percentage of who social media impacts. It will then cover how language has been impacted by social media and then will tie it with how it affects younger generations and students as well. The project will also highlight the negative effects that social media has on mental health, primarily young adults. The project will also briefly demonstrate how language impacts mental health and how they coincide with one another. For the lesson plan portion, it will focus on helping teach students how language has been affected by social media, as well as how impactful it can be towards their mental health.
7.
 - A. Some research I will need to do in order to complete this project would be understanding the language aspect regarding social media. Mainly looking as a brief timeframe as to when words started to arise. I will also be looking at the percentage usage of social media, showing who uses it most as well as who is more impacted by it. I will also need to look at how social media can affect people's mental health. Specifically how it impacts teens more than it may impact adults and other generations. (Maybe look at the impact language has on younger generation compared to older generations, like boss, or "I gotch you, hol up")
 - B. I will need to look at sources regarding statistics. Primarily articles and websites that give data regarding the statistics for social media usage within teens. I will

also need to see if there are any scholarly peer reviewed articles that would help me solidify my statement.

8. In order to help meet my expectations for this project, I will need to do a good amount of research regarding language. Specifically how social media has played a role in it. I will also want to look at some statistical aspects regarding who it affects more. I will also need to research how mental health is impacted, who is affected the most, as well as the percentage surrounding all of it. One key aspect, since my essay portion is roughly going to be 8-10 pages, I would realistically like to have a rough draft or two, by the first week or even second week of November, Since I still need to create a lesson plan and it is something new for myself.

9.

- a. Week of Oct. 9th: Create a proposal paper for my project, and start doing some basic research surrounding it (Social Media & Language). Turn in Proposal by Oct. 13th
- b. Week of Oct 16th: Begin research of linguistics and social media usage (Email Professor Fletcher regarding my Project as well as my lesson plan rough idea)
- c. Week of Oct 23rd: Begin research of social media impact on mental health, also have resume updated and CV
- d. Week of Oct 30th: Start rough draft, roughly 1000 words done
- e. Week of Nov 6th: Continue rough draft
- f. Week of Nov 13th: Try to have a complete rough draft as well as start learning plan

- g. Week of Nov. 20th: Continue working on Lesson plan (Contact Professor Fletcher regarding lesson plan help)
- h. Week of Nov 27th: Have a solid rough draft done as well as a rough draft of my lesson plan. Put it all together
- i. Week of Dec. 4th: Finalize my draft and practice presentations
- j. Week of Dec.11th: Complete project and Capstone Festival

Research Essay:

Social media sites have grown over the years into something many of us spend hours upon hours on, consumed by what it brings. I myself was addicted to social media, using it around six to seven hours a day until I started to decrease my time and delete half of the social media applications I had. I'm down to around an hour to two hours of usage a day (which sounds better, but in reality, not so much). I have seen many sides of social media and what it brings to the table for a person. I've let it affect my mental health multiple times, as well as noticing that my language and communication skills are changing over the course of usage. Using words I never thought I'd say in a professional setting; words such as "bet", "I got you", or even calling customers "boss". Words I typically only used in my friend group, seeping into face-to-face communication with customers, something that I try to change and work on, but knowing in the back of my mind that I learned most of this from social media and the hours upon hours I spent on there.

Clearly social media has had an impact on my life and language, so much so I want to research the effects it has and hopefully inform the younger generation as well. When mentioning social media within this paper, or when the term "social media" is being used, I am referring to social networking sites mainly, Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter (X), Reddit, Tiktok, and other sites along these lines; social media is a very broad term that can also include google and looking up information, but I will primarily be looking at the sites that are used to socialize, connect and network with others, as stated above. Social media can be a wonderful tool that helps us connect with loved ones, share memories, and even meet new friends. But it can also have negative effects that can affect a person's mental and physical health, and even the way they communicate. With these negative effects in mind, it's important to ask the question: how

does this affect the younger generation that uses these sites? Social Media can affect younger generations and the way they communicate as well as their mental health.

This paper will first look at what social media is and explain which aspect of social media I will be highlighting within this paper. Then, I will look at how language has been impacted by social media, as well as who it affects the most; While I will be mentioning the effect social media has on all users, I will be emphasizing the effects it has on students and their well being. Finally I will look at how language impacts mental health and why it is important to acknowledge the impact social media has had on students. This paper will focus on how social media has impacted language and communication for students within the United States but also highlight and dive into how social media has impacted their mental health. While looking at language, communication and mental health, it is also important to look at how they coincide with one another.

Social media has been around for decades and it comes in many different forms. Like the ones mentioned above, sites such as TikTok, Twitter, and Instagram are the more recent ones just to name a few. In an article by Saqib Shah titled “the History of Social Networking”, he talks about the site known as SixDegrees.com. He states, “the site sprung up in 1997 and was one of the very first to allow its users to create profiles, invite friends, organize groups, and surf other user profiles” (Shah). This was the first social media networking site that allowed people to create their own profiles and create a digital record of themselves. But it wasn't until MySpace and Facebook launched, that the terms social networking and social media, really took into effect. MySpace launched in 2003 and one year later Facebook launched; currently Facebook is the only social networking site from this era that is still available today.

As time progressed, more social media sites popped up. Nowadays social media has an impact on our daily lives. Social media dominates technology and our phones. In an article by Belle Wong, J.D. titled “Top Social Media Statistics and Trends of 2023” Wong states that, “the number of social media users worldwide has swelled to a record 4.9 billion people globally. What’s more, this number is expected to jump to approximately 5.85 billion users by 2027” (Wong J.D.) There are roughly around 7.9 billion people in the world, and going off these numbers equals it to roughly every one out of three people are on social media. Wong also mentions how social media targets a younger audience, stating how, “social media usage has typically skewed toward the younger demographic, with 84% of those aged 18 to 29 and 81% of people between 30 to 49 actively using at least one social media site” (Wong J.D.). Roughly 84% of users on social media are around the age of 18-29 years of age, meaning that that demographic uses social media the most. Using this data, we can argue that younger social media users are the ones most likely to experience the effects of these sites because they are the target audience that social networking companies are focused on.

It is not a surprise that social media is targeted towards a younger audience. As time moved on, some social media sites became more targeted towards a younger audience such as Youtube, TikTok, Instagram, while Facebook, Twitter, and Reddit have an older audience. In an article by Emily Vogels, David Massarat, and Risa Gelles-Watnick titled, “Teens, Social Media and Technology 2022” they state how in a survey of American teens, about 13 to 17 years old:

YouTube tops the 2022 teen online landscape among the platforms covered in the Center’s new survey, as it is used by 95% of teens. TikTok is next on the list of platforms that were asked about in this survey (67%), followed by Instagram and Snapchat, which

are both used by about six-in-ten teens. After those platforms come Facebook with 32% (Vogels, et al.).

YouTube, TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat are more targeted towards a younger audience and their research regarding this shows how it is used by teenagers more than adults. Social Media has had a bigger impact in our society than many may have realized. After establishing that younger audiences are the target base of social media, it's important to analyze how these users are being affected, starting with communication skills.

Social media can help us communicate with friends and family, meet new people, share information and memories, save memories, and even learn new information. Social media can also impact the way we speak, communicate, learn information, and even cause bullying; It can also play an impact regarding language and the way we communicate. With many new words, phrases, abbreviations, and even changing the meaning of existing words, these words can seep from online communications into in person conversations. This can cause the structure of conversations to lose their values. Some of these words, phrases and abbreviations can include, "bet", "fire", "lit", "cap", "Okurr" "OMG" (Oh My God), "WBU" (What about you), "OMW" (on my way), "I gotch you", "pull up", and many more. One word we can look at would be "bet". Prior to social media, the word meant: to gamble, risk, feel sure regarding an item, place or person (Oxford). But now it can be a slang word for agreeing with someone, or it can be used to replace "okay". Another word we can take a look at would be "cap", which typically meant an object that someone wears upon their head (Oxford), but now it can also be a slang word for a person lying or not telling the truth; people typically say, "thats cap" or "stop the cap" or purely just "cap". These are just a few words that have had a change in meaning upon the use of social

media. When these words are used in conversations, it can sound less professional and can be seen by some as “a lack of communication skills”.

Social Media has impacted our communication skills more than we may realize. In an article by Nathan Ruff titled, “The Power of Social Media Language”, he mentions how acronyms, abbreviations, emojis, and shortened words have become a much more common norm within the way we communicate that makes traditional communication and writing seem old-fashioned (Ruff). Many use abbreviations, acronyms and shortened words in their day to day communication and it may make formal writing feel like a thing of the past. Ruff also states, “the younger generation is particularly susceptible to these new words and phrases, and they have become a crucial part of their everyday language. This has led to a generational divide in language use, with older generations struggling to understand the constantly evolving social media language” (Ruff). Since social media is more geared towards the younger generation, it is not a surprise that they are the most susceptible to using new words or phrases. These words and phrases may be harder for some to grasp compared to others, and some may be more confused about what they mean or are trying to say.

In *Rhetoric in Civic life* a textbook composed by Catherine Helen Palczewski, Richard Ice and John Fritch, one of the concepts mentioned in the book is called Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis also known as the theory of linguistic relativity. Palczewski states that the Theory of Linguistic Relativity is “the idea that the structure of language influences the way people perceive the world” (Palczewski, et al. 37). Using this concept and framework, it allows us to understand that language influences the way people think, communicate, form sentences and view the world. Palcesewski also mentions how people “may know things exist apart from their language, they do not know what those things mean, or how they are to react to them, except through language”

(Palczewski, et al. 37 - 38). This allows us to understand and realize that language can have many meanings behind it and some may know what they mean while some may not, but the way people react and communicate is through language. Younger people are more prone to use new phrases, words, or abbreviations compared to older people, since many younger people want to “fit in” or be a part of the “status quo”. This can create a language barrier between people younger and older, causing older generations to not understand or know what these words mean, causing them to react confused due to that barrier.

Since younger generations are the ones that are more susceptible to using and conforming to the newer “language norms” presented by social media, it can lead to less proper grammar, language structure and communication skill sets. The article by Nathan Ruff that was stated previously, also states how the “over-reliance on social media language could lead to a decline in traditional communication skills such as grammar, and sentence structure. This decline can be seen in the way people communicate on social media, with many users using shortened words instead of proper language” (Ruff). Social media can be seen as over used and seen as a crutch, it can lead to a change in the way people communicate and the decline in communication skills. Since social media is approximately used more by younger people, primarily students, it is more likely that they are affected by the language being used on social media and it translates to in person communication.

Many use social media for communication, as it is the easiest way to communicate with others nowadays, besides text messages and talking over the phone. But many of the apps mentioned prior, also allow you to talk to each other privately and call each other on the apps as well, introducing more ways to communicate. Depending on who a person is talking to, they may change the way they text or speak as well as some may use different sentence structures,

grammar, abbreviations, and words when communicating through social media compared to in person communication. This can create many problems with communication, and cause many to use social media to communicate with people who may be directly in front of them. In an article titled, “How social media is changing the way people get to know one another” by Katie Bohn, she states, “speaking to someone face to face allows a person to pick up nonverbal cues — such as smiling, arm crossing and body positioning — that help people communicate. But because social media lacks this face-to-face contact...” (Bohn). Communicating through social media sites, takes away verbal and nonverbal communication skills that help benefit people in picking them up. It can be harder to read a person over text and pick up cues regarding how they feel and what they mean compared to picking up said cues in face-to-face communication. In an article titled “Social Media Usage Statistics by Age”, by Ying Lin, the site demonstrates that an estimated 68.5 million U.S Millennials (ages 27- 42) use social media with 56.4 million U.S. Generation Z (Ages 11-26) being right behind them (Lin). Lin also mentions that it is equivalent to every one in four (24.6%) of all users on social media (Lin). With every one and four users on social media being around the age of 11-26, it is important to realize that they are still developing communication skills and language, as well as being impacted by the effects social media brings.

Losing these communication skills and using social media “language” can take its toll on people and affect their mental health. Since people are losing face-to-face communication and may feel as if they are not communicating well, it can lead to some having social anxiety, fearing what others may think of them or what they say. Referring back to the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, we can understand how impactful face-to-face communication is. Like Palczewski states, language can be interpreted in different ways, depending on your knowledge. Losing face-to-face communication skills can make it harder for people to understand that the people they are

communicating with might comprehend their words differently than they intended. Social Media impacts the way many communicate and their language and is seen more within younger generations compared to older generations, but social media also affects one's mental health. In an article by Meg Walters titled, "Social Media and Youth Mental Health: How to Find Balance After Pandemic Spikes in Use" she mentions how it is estimated that about 90% of U.S. adolescents between the ages 13-17 use social media more frequently, she also mention how suicide attempts had a 31 percent increase from 2019 to 2020 regarding U.S. adolescents (Walters). Social Media is targeted more towards a younger audience and the research seems to show that as well. Sadly it affects their communication skills, and mental health the most. The article also mentions a study/survey conducted with about 1,500 Americans that came to the conclusion that, "86 percent of those ages 16 to 24 reported that social media directly negatively impacts their happiness. Additional results included the following: 85 percent reported negative effects on self-esteem, 85 percent reported negative effects on self-image, 83 percent reported an increase in anxiety, 81 percent reported an increase in loneliness, 79 percent reported an increase in depression" (Walters). Around 85% of Americans between the ages of 16-24 have experienced some sort of mental health related effect from social media usage. Social media can lead to many feeling unhappy with themselves, having anxiety, feeling lonely, self-esteem issues and even forming depression.

Social Media can also create an environment for cyber-bullying, causing many to have self-esteem issues and even depression. Tying back to how communication and language is affected by social media as well as how many start to lose face-to-face conversations, social media can also be a place for bullying to occur and many to feel as though, there are no

consequences for their actions or what they say on the internet. In an article titled “Social Media: Cyberbullying, Body Shaming and Trauma” by Beverly Lickteig, she states:

According to the Girls’ Attitudes Survey conducted in 2016, 47 percent of girls aged 11-21 disclosed that the way they look holds them back and limits what they can do. Unfortunately for most, body shaming has become part of their daily routine and day to day experience. 94 percent of teenage girls have reported being body shamed and 57 percent of 12-20-year old’s think that the cause of their bullying was due to their appearance (Lickteig).

Body Shaming is a form of bullying that puts someone down based upon how they look and how their body looks; body shaming can happen to anyone but it typically can be seen more within younger girls. As mentioned in the quote, 57% of girls between the ages 12-20 have experienced body shaming due to the result of being bullied by how they appear and look.

Since many post on social media, either photos or “tweets”, they share their life with anyone and particularly people who follow them. When people post a photo of themselves, it can cause many to react to said photos, and comment or reply to them, with nasty comments about how they appear or look. This can cause young girls to have a lower level of self esteem, causing them to become depressed and could potentially lead to unwanted self harming thoughts. Most of the time people follow who they went to highschool with, friends, family, and sometimes even random people on the internet. In a day in age where young people's dream is to become internet famous and get paid to post online, it can be easier for them to follow random people who they have zero connection with. It can also be easier for many to say what they want to others and comment on what they want, since they have zero connection as well. These comments can cause many to have lower self esteem, anxiety, depression, body dysmorphia, and even cause self

harm or worse. The words that are being commented on others posts, and what people say DO matter and can cause mental health issues in many, especially for those who are young and have hopes and dreams.

When anyone can comment on a person's post, it can impact their mental health and cause repercussions. Language matters when it comes to a person's mental health, and the words being said can either help a person or hurt a person. An old saying that has been around for many years says, “sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me”, this may be true, but nowadays many are being hurt by the words being said to them and causing them to have low mental health. In an article titled “Do Words Really Hurt” written by Elyssa Lee, she mentions that words do hurt people and can either have a positive effect or a negative effect (Lee). Words can impact a person's mental health either for the better or for worse; Lee also states, “if it’s positive, it can boost a person’s energy, self esteem, and bring out good. If it’s negative, it can negatively affect a person’s sense of self and ultimately, the direction of their lives. In fact, it has been found that words can not only have a deep psychological impact, but a physical one as well” (Lee). Words and language can help boost a person's self esteem and help a person's energy but they can also hurt their self esteem and can impact their lives. Language holds powerful meaning and words also carry so much power behind them that it can affect the person on the receiving end. Lee also states later that negative words can impact the receivers stress levels, increasing their anxiety and also lead to higher rates of negative self-talk, while positive words can boost confidence, health, and help life goals (Lee). Language and words matter when addressing a person and can cause negative effects or positive effects.

Conversation and sentences also matter, as well as clarification. We live in a time period where mental health is at an all time high, and many experience some sort of mental health issue.

What words and language we use, can impact a person and either help them feel better about themselves or can cause them to feel bad about themselves. Like stated above, it can be easier for anyone to comment on a post and can cause many to speak more “freely” since they are hiding behind a screen and may feel as though there are no consequences to their word choices. But in reality, there are consequences either positive or negative and the choice in words can impact a person. Language matters when it comes to mental health and it can impact a person either beneficially or negatively, but how does this relate to students?

For example, as stated earlier in the paper, there are around 54.6 million users on social media around the age of 11 to 26. This may not seem like a huge margin in the end, but in retrospect it does make up around a quarter of users in the United States alone. When realizing how social media apps are more targeted to younger generations, it is not surprising that a quarter of people around the age of 11 to 26 in the United states, use social media. Younger people can also be more easily taken in to what social media brings, either good or bad. Social media can impact a person's language and also impact their mental health since they coincide together. We live in a digital age, where everything is online, and almost every person has some sort of social media profile. In an article titled “The Impact of Social Media on Students” by Vavek Bharwani, he states that “social media has both positive and negative effects on students. While it provides many benefits like enhancing communication, information sharing, educational opportunities, and networking opportunities, it also has negative effects like addiction, cyberbullying, distraction, and false information” (Bharwani). Social media can help students communicate easier while also allowing them to share information faster, but that risk can also lead to cyberbullying and false information. There is no denying that social media can help students and people in general communicate more efficiently, but it can be negative when they mainly

communicate over social media rather than face-to-face. When students lose face-to-face communication it can impact their social skills and language building skills, possibly causing them to miss out on critical life skills as well.

As students are still learning language, and building upon their skills, it is important for them to learn key communication skills and key language skills. These skills could also cause students to have a harder time to pick up social cues when communicating face-to-face. Students are still learners and their brains are still developing, so it is important for them to keep building their language skills and communication skills. Since we found that words impact mental health and can cause either positive or negative effects to the receiver, it is also important to note the percentage of students affected by mental health. In a report titled “2022 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report” provided by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (A.H.R.Q.), the report mentions “nearly 20% of children and young people ages 3-17 in the United States have a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral disorder, and suicidal behaviors among high school students increased more than 40% in the decade before 2019” (A.H.R.Q. 73). Younger people, primarily children and teenagers around the age of 3-17, experience or have some sort of mental health issue and for highschool students it increased to 40%. Students' mental health is just as important as their language skills and communication skills. The report also states, “childhood and adolescence are critical times for physical and mental development. Development of good mental health is important for overall good health and well-being throughout the lifespan” (A.H.R.Q. 73). These time periods are crucial for adolescents to grow and develop and realizing that 40% are suffering from mental health issues is astounding to look at.

With the rise of social media usage for younger generations being high, it is not surprising that they are having mental health issues as well. Younger generations are still learning and developing, and with them taking up about a quarter of the population on social media within the United States alone, it's not a surprise that they will also be the most susceptible to the effects being brought. Social media impacts students' language and communication skills, as well as impacting their mental health. It is also worth noting that social media is not all negative for students, as it can allow them to create new friendships and even build upon communication skills, but it is also important to look at the negative effects it can bring for students.

Social media can bring many together, allow you to meet new people and make new friends and share your lives with many, but it can also bring upon negative repercussions as well. Looking at how social media has impacted language and communication as well as how it has impacted mental health is a key stepping stone as to the consequences it can bring. Social media is not completely bad, but it is not completely good. Realizing the effects it has on students is important for us to help avoid complications in the future. Language influences the way people communicate with each other, form sentences and view the world. Language holds powerful meaning, and can even affect how a person feels. Social media can impact language and communication skills, while also impacting one's mental health, as language and mental health work together.

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Lesson Plan:

Learning Objectives:

The main learning objectives for this lesson plan are helping students understand the effects social media has on them as users and consumers. Mainly taking a dive into the different effects social media can have on a person and how it can have negative or positive impacts depending on its usage. I will also help and assess students' usage of social media and how often they use it outside of school and how many rely on social media as well. Another learning objective with this lesson plan is to help students understand how social media has impacted grammar and had an influence on the way we communicate. Learning how social media has had many different effects as a whole will help us as teachers and help the students have a better grasp of the role that social media can play. This lesson plan will take about 6 to 7 weeks to cover, but it also depends on any setbacks, obstacles.

Materials Needed:

Luckily most of the materials I will need are available online or I can create them on Google doc or Google survey, as I did below. One main source I will be using would be a book titled *Rhetoric in Life* written by Palczewski, Ice and Fritch and looking at Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis also known as the Theory of linguistic Relativity. This theory relates to how language is perceived by the world and it is a good theory to look at and dive into while looking at social media and its impact on language. The book also has other good theories and concepts which could also be applied while looking and learning about language. Using this book as a tool will also help students apply some of these concepts they find within it, to apply and find a connection between. This book is very informative as stated, and allows students to look at

different theories that could connect to this topic and the idea of Social Media's impact on Language.

Bumps in the road or what could go wrong:

There is always something that could go wrong or could cause bumps in the road when creating any lesson plan or even when doing an activity. But knowing how to prepare for them will help this lesson plan work more effectively and benefit myself and the students as well. One thing that could cause this would be sickness or not being there one day, and if that did become the case, I will have an activity planned for the students that can be done without me being there or have them work on their final project. Another bump in the road could be some unforeseen weather conditions causing the school to shut down or even events, but that is also the worst case scenario which hopefully never happens. Another thing that would cause the lesson plan to possibly backfire or take longer to complete, would be if the students have trouble with certain activities or days or have harder times grasping the concept being taught. That is why I typically give an extra week roughly to complete the lesson plan, as a precautionary measure for this, in case it does happen.

Activities:

Activity 1:

For the first activity I will have students take a quick survey at the beginning of the class regarding questions related to social media. This survey will help me assess how many students use social media more than I may expect, and this will also help me determine how many students believe social media has negative consequences or positive consequences. With google forms it also gives me graphs and charts of the answers and feedback, allowing me to help better assess my students and have a better understanding of how they believe social impacts them.

Time: 1 Minute and will be done on Google Survey.

Survey Link:

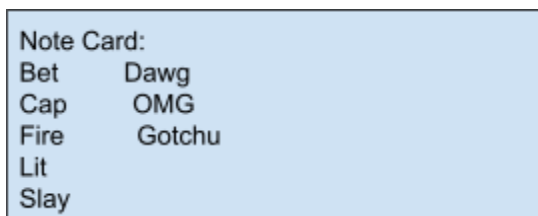
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkyswYO2kCAJ451ieDc7mvniDHacxDOSizSQLRhkH50G4C2w/viewform?usp=sf_link

Activity 2:

For the second activity I will pass around a blank note card to each student and give them a prompt. The Prompt being: Write down any catchphrases, slang words or abbreviations you see and hear while on social media. This will also help me assess their knowledge on language and how many see the same slang words, catchphrases, or abbreviations on social media platforms. The students will pass the note cards back to me and at the end of the class period I will make a mini poster of every word they gave me and also add tally marks next to the ones that had multiple.

Time: 5 minutes to write and 1 Minute to collect.

Example Of Note Card:



Note Card:
Bet Dawg
Cap OMG
Fire Gotchu
Lit
Slay

Activity 3:

For this activity, I will create a discussion board, either it be on canvas (or whatever grading and turn in sight it be) or write the prompt on the board. The prompt will consist of a multiple of questions, they can either just answer a couple of them or all of them. This activity will allow me to get a feel for their writing skills as well as allow me to assess them and their

opinions regarding social media. The prompt is mainly to help me understand my students better and allow them to get their brains going regarding this topic. The main requirements will be 10 sentences and also include a 5 minute discussion with their peers.

Time: 10-15 minutes to write and 5 Minutes to discuss

The prompt will be:

“What is your opinion about Social Media? Do you agree or disagree with social media having negative effects? Do you believe that social media can either improve or harm language skills? Do you believe social media impacts mental health? Can social media become a tool for students or can it harm them?”

Activity 4: (If Absent or If needed):

For this activity I will have students do a bit of research regarding social media sites and their impact. This will also have some correlation with the final project and their evaluation, but then again this is a “need be assignment”. Students will conduct research on social media platforms or sites and look at the positives and negatives social media can cause. They will create a Venn diagram regarding the positives and negatives and also look at the middle and see how it can create a neutral zone as well. The point of this activity is to help the students do their own research as well as form their own opinion regarding the effects of social media, either positive or negative. This will also help them progress within their final project and help them improve their researching skills.

Time: Half of the class Period to Full class period (Depending on when this is used for)

Activity 5:

For this activity, it will focus on Verbal and Non-verbal communication. For this, I will break the students up into pairs. This will also be done in multiple rounds, where round one consists of two students having a conversation with no body language at all. The second round will consist of a silent conversation where they use their body to talk but no language at all. The third round will consist of the two, language and body language as well. The fourth round will consist of a conversation over paper (sort of like passing notes, emulating texting each other). Each round will consist of 2-3 minutes each, and the importance of this activity is to highlight the difference between face-to-face communication and communicating over text. When two people are having a conversation over text, it can be much harder to pick up social cues and figure out what person is trying to say; this can also lead to people miscommunicating.

Time: About roughly 20 minutes more or less.

Teaching Strategies:

Some teaching strategies I will use while going about this lesson plan, would be figuring out how to make this interesting for students as well. This topic may be more interesting for some compared to others, and many may lose interest while it is being taught. So, one strategy I will use, would be connecting it to them, and trying to find a connection/ bridge that they can relate to and feel a connection with. Finding a connection between the topic and the students can make the subject easier for them to understand and comprehend. This allows a connection to be created where they can relate to a topic more clearly and hopefully not feel completely lost by. The way I would connect this to the students would be asking them “how does your language and communication compare when talking to me compared to friends and families?” This question allows them to start thinking about the language choices they use when communicating to their loved ones or in a friendly setting, compared to a setting that is more “professional”

Another strategy I will use will be creating an activity at the beginning of the week, allowing myself as the teacher to understand where each student is at, and understand which ones may need more help and may also have a harder time along the way.

One other teaching strategy I will use within this lesson plan as well in other lesson plans I create, will be giving students time in class to work on assignments, homework or their final projects. Many teachers like to give their students a ton of homework and believe that that class is their top priority, and they should only focus and do that homework first and foremost. This is not the case and many students may have trouble doing homework outside of class, due to personal responsibilities they may have or personal issues they have to deal with. Allowing them to work on their homework and projects in class may not be the go to for some teachers, but I believe that this allows students to ask more questions and not feel overwhelmed with all the homework they get from other classes. This can also allow them to understand information better when it comes to homework, allowing them to better comprehend the homework. By doing this in class it opens the floor for them to ask me questions and not feel lost while doing homework, also if they are confused by any aspect of their homework it allows less confusion as well.

Assessment:

For their assessment, I will do activity one and activity two within the first week, allowing me to assess their knowledge on the topic and allowing me to get a sense of what their opinions are regarding it. I will also create a discussion board known as activity three with the prompt, allowing me to get a sense of their writing skills and capabilities. These assessments will help me figure out where students are within the year, and allow me to help them better with their writing and comprehension as well. The assessments will also help me understand what they know regarding the topic of social media and the concept of language. It will also allow me

to create a better pathway for how I may need to approach the lesson and if I need to change any aspect within my lesson plan. The main focus of using these assessments is primarily to help myself get a better understanding of where each student stands with their writing, communication skills (possibly), and their understanding of social media and its effects.

Evaluation:

For their evaluation, it will consist of a final paper with a presentation. The topic of the paper will be focused around social media and how it has impacted language. They can either focus on the impact being a positive or a negative, whatever they choose to talk about. Students are required to use 3 sources minimum with a paper length three to five pages, more is acceptable but not required. This project will start in the middle of the lesson plan, allowing them an amount of time to start and form ideas. Like stated before, there will also be a presentation attached to this paper, with the requirements being, a titles slide, thesis slide, Subtopic Slide 1 Subtopic slide 2, Subtopic slide 3, Conclusion slide and works cited slide.

The slide and presentation portion of this final evaluation won't be heavily graded but the paper aspect will help me evaluate how much my students understood and also how much they comprehended over the course of this lesson plan and topic. This evaluation will also provide good feedback to how well I taught this topic and if this lesson plan would need to be tweaked in the future or adjusted, since the main source is the way I would be teaching them and if many students had trouble with this topic it does fall on myself as well.

Weeks/ Layout:***Week 1:***

For the first week of this lesson plan, I will go over the bases of what composes grammar. The main point and focus of the first week will be to assess where each student is at and how

much they understand. For this week I will use Activity one and two. Using these two activities as assessments allows me to better help my students and help me organize the rest of weeks as well as the powerpoints. This will be more of an introduction to the topic and be used to assess the students, and highlight what we will go over, in the following unit.

Week 2:

For the second week we will look at the impact social media has, and take a look at the positives and negatives it has. This week will be more focused on the effect social media has; looking at both effects allows us to understand that it can have negative consequences as well as positive. I will also use activity three during this week, in order to see what they know about social media and where they stand with it. Towards the end of this week, we will start to look at language and look back at the note cards from the previous week (Activity 2). The purpose of that activity was to see what they know regarding social media language and see if it has impacted the students.

Week 3:

For this week we will look at *Rhetoric in Life* written by Palczewski, Ice and Fritch. This book has many concepts and theories within it and we will be looking at the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis also known as the Theory of linguistic Relativity. This theory helps us understand how language is perceived by the world and the theory is good to look at and use while we dive into social media and the impact it had on language. This week will also focus on how social media impacts language and communication. I will create a discussion question that we will talk about in small groups then turn into a large group discussion. The purpose of this is to understand and see if the students believe social media has impacted language and understand if this is a concept they ever thought about.

The Question will be: “How does your language and communication compare when talking to me compared to friends and families?”

Week 4:

For this week I will start to introduce them to their final project as well as piece together why language and communication is important . The main focus will be on looking at why communication is important, looking at face-to-face communication versus online communication, as well as the different aspects of communication within those two. I will also use Activity five for this week and allow it to be a demonstration for students. This activity will help us look at how important communication is and the impacts social media can have on communication. The final project is stated in the evaluation section of this lesson plan, and is to allow me to evaluate my students and how much they understand the topic and what they can find regarding it as well.

Week 5:

This week will be more heavily focused on the students, and allowing them in class time to work on their final project and allowing them to bounce ideas off of one another. Giving them time in class is very important since it can be hard for some students to do homework outside of class, since many may be bogged down with other classes homeworks, their personal life or even obstacles they face at home causing them to have trouble with doing homework. I will also use Activity four during this week, since it would be a good activity to use to help them brainstorm ideas regarding their project. This will also help me understand where they are at within their project and what direction they are aiming for as well.

Week 6:

This week will be more focused on their project, allowing them time to work on it in class as well. I will also go over a summary of social media and how it has impacted communication. Basically highlighting what we went over earlier in the unit. Giving them a refresher will help them come up with ideas and possibly help them work on their final project.

Week 7:

For the final week, it will be more focused on their final project, which is stated within the Evaluation portion of the paper. This week will be dedicated to presentations and turning in their final paper, which will be due at the end of this week.