

Teaching **English**

Facebook and social networking

Task 1: Reading

Read the text quickly. Why was Ivy Bean famous?

Friends

Research by a British anthropologist shows that the optimum number of friendships that the human brain can maintain is about 150. But that's in the real world. What happens on Facebook where the maximum number of 'friends' permitted is 5000? According to social networking statistics, the average Facebook user has 130 friends. Some people have a lot more.

Ivy Bean from Bradford in the north of England became Facebook's oldest known user at the age of 102 in 2008. She quickly started making friends and became an online celebrity. When she maxed out her 5000 friend count on Facebook Ms. Bean joined the Twitter website and continued her social networking. At the time of her death in July 2010, she had 4,962 friends on Facebook and more than 56,000 followers (including the Prime Minister's wife) on Twitter. Ms. Bean's last tweet was July 6 2010. It read, "Going to have my lunch now will be back later."

Task 2:

Read the text again and find these numbers. What do the numbers refer to?

150 - the optimum number of friendships

130

2008

2010

5000

4962

56000



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Task 3: Social networking profile

Imagine you want to join FriendPage. Fill in your profile

| FriendPage profile. Basic information: | |
|--|--|
| Name: | |
| Age: | |
| Gender | |
| Location: | |
| Hometown: | |
| Interested in: | |
| Personality: | |
| Right now I feel: | |

Task 4: House Rules

Complete the FriendPage house rules with must/mustn't:

- 1. You _____ write in English.
- 2. You _____ be rude or nasty.
- 3. You _____ be boring.
- 4. You _____be under 18.



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Task 5: The wall

| Introduce yourself. |
|--------------------------|
| Hi, I'm |
| |
| fold the paper |
| |
| 2. Write a question: |
| 3. Answer the question: |
| fold the paper |
| |
| 4. Write a question: |
| 5. Answer the question: |
| fold the paper |
| |
| 6. Write a question: |
| 7. Answer the question: |
| fold the paper |
| 8. Write a question: |
| 9. Answer the question: |
| fold the paper |
| 10. Write a question: |
| 11. Answer the question: |
| |
| |