

Transcript:

Sarah: Hi I'm Sarah.

Jack: And I'm Jack. Welcome to Everyday English.

Jack: Today we're talking about **social media** and the **internet**.

Sarah: Now a lot of us spend a lot of time on the internet and on social media sites so it's good to know some vocabulary that you can use to talk about your online activities in English.

Jack: Let's start with the internet which is a noun also sometimes called the **net**, the **web** or **cyberspace** although the internet is most common.

Jack: When we use the internet, we use the verb **connect**.

I connect to the internet.

Jack: You can also **go online** which means the same thing. In this case, **online** is an adverb which modifies the verb go but online can also be an adjective as in:

I'm online right now.

Jack: ...which means you're connected to the internet. The opposite of online is **offline** which is most often used as an adjective meaning not connected to the internet.

Jack: You can also say you're **surfing the internet** or **surfing the net** although those phrases aren't so common anymore.

Sarah: Let's have a look at some nouns that you might need to know when you talk about online activities. There's **website** which is a place that you visit online made up of **webpages**. **Data** which means information in digital form. **Password** is a word that only you know and that you use to protect your private information. A **domain** is the address of a website and a **URL** is the address of a webpage. A **browser** is a software that you use to access the internet. A **search engine** is software that you use to search the internet.

Sarah: The most popular search engine is Google. In fact, **google** is often used as a verb. When we say we're **googling** something, it means we're looking it up on the internet.

Jack: Another verb you might need to know is **download**. That means to take information from the internet. You might also **stream** something which is when you watch a **video** or listen to music online without downloading it. Some websites ask you to **sign up** so that your personal preferences can be saved. And when you visit that website, you'll need to **log in** using a username and a password

Jack: Let's listen to a conversation about the internet.

Charlotte: Hey Nic, what're you up to?

Nic: Just watching a new online series that's just come out.

Charlotte: Did you download it?

Nic: No, I'm streaming it through my browser.

Charlotte: What website?

Nic: iView.

Charlotte: Oh really, I've never used it. Do you have to sign up?

Nic: No, you don't need a username or a password. You just put the URL in or search it on Google. Then it comes up for you.

Sarah: One very popular online activity is **using social media**.

Jack: There are lots of social media sites out there. They play a big part in the lives of a lot of people. Let's have a look at some of the words we use to talk about social media.

Sarah: Let's start with **post**. That can be a verb or a noun and it means something that's put on social media.

I posted a picture or I looked at a post.

Sarah: You can also **share** something so that your friends can see it. You might share a picture or a message or even a meme.

Sarah: A **meme** is an image or a video or a piece of text that's copied and spread by other internet users. Something you share might **go viral** which means it's passed rapidly to a lot of people.

Jack: To **tweet** means to share a message on the social media site Twitter. And a **hashtag** is a word or group of words which follow the number symbol which is used to group together similar topics or ideas. If a topic or hashtag is popular we say it's **trending**. The people who connect with your account are called your **followers**, your **fans** or your **friends** depending on which social media site you're using. We also call social media sites **platforms** sometimes.

Jack: You can **tag** people you know in photos or text you post online. That lets them know the post is about them and you can **like** someone's post.

Sarah: The things your friends post on social media might go on your **feed**. That's a central place on a social media site which is constantly being updated with new stories or information. And you might want to comment on posts that you see on your feed.

Charlotte: Take a look at this picture on Instagram!

Nic: That is hilarious. What account is that?

Charlotte: It's called lolsypics. It's basically just memes and other funny pictures that have gone viral.

Nic: Do they take the photos themselves?

Charlotte: Not all the time. Sometimes they share stuff from other accounts and then tag the original owner.

Nic: I'll have to follow them. That's awesome.

Charlotte: Yeah I'll comment and tag you in one of their pictures so you can find it.

Nic: Cheers.

Jack: The digital space is constantly evolving so there will be new words that come up to describe new actions, platforms and trends.

Sarah: A good way to keep up with the latest vocabulary related to this topic is to read the news and take note of any new terms that you come across. Well, that's all from us for today. We'll see you next time.