

UNIT

2

Digital Citizenship

Student Packet • Grades 9-12



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media

Overexposed: Sexting and Relationships

Directions

Read the real-life posts from MTV’s “A Thin Line” Campaign below. Vote on whether you think each situation crosses the line. Then brainstorm ways for teens to avoid sexting, and to use digital media responsibly.

Lynn | Female, 15

There is a girl at school and she is constantly upset with me because she thinks I like her boyfriend. She even has her friends texting me telling me to stay away from him. But her bf and I are just friends. What am I supposed to do?

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IS THIS...
 over
 on
 under
 THE LINE?

caleb | male, 16

im 16 my girlfriend broke up with me in a text messag so i posted some nude pictures she sent me all over town and on the internet was this over the line?

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IS THIS...
 over
 on
 under
 THE LINE?

Anonymous

my girlfriend sometimes txts wen around me, i ask her to let me see her phone and she says no. idk what to believe or expect it worries me sometimes that she is cheating on me. a month or two ago she would always let me see it, now she never does

view comments (7) | post comment | share

IS THIS...
 over
 on
 under
 THE LINE?

Anonymous

This girl who tries super hard to be popular posted these skanky pics on facebook so we all texted her anonymously telling her shes ugly.

view comments (27) | post comment | share

IS THIS...
 over
 on
 under
 THE LINE?

Risky Online Relationships

Directions

Read the story below. Then follow the directions on the next page.

Sheyna's first year of high school is off to a rough start. She was a CIT (counselor in training) at a day camp this summer and loved every minute of it. But now Sheyna misses camp and feels like she can't relate to her school friends anymore.

Every evening, Sheyna IMs (instant messages) Nick, the assistant director of her camp. He just graduated from college and lives a few hours away from her. Nick and Sheyna didn't know each other that well, but they exchanged screen names at the end of the summer. Sheyna talks to Nick about how much she misses camp and why she's frustrated with her friends. Nick is funny, flirty, and great at giving advice. "Those girls sound so immature," he tells her. "You might as well be in college. Seriously. You act way cooler than any 14-year-old I know."

A few weeks after school starts, Nick starts flirting with Sheyna more obviously:

kNicksFan93 did you know i thought about you at camp all the time?
i like couldn't take my eyes off you

sheybey101 :) why didn't you say anything!?

kNicksFan93 lol u were a CIT

kNicksFan93 ...and i want to make sure u will still be a CIT next summer....
so we can't tell anyone about this...

sheybey101 ummm i better be a CIT next summer! jk. (but seriously.)

kNicksFan93 parents freak out about this kind of stuff

kNicksFan93 u don't want me to lose my job, right?

sheybey101 of course not!

kNicksFan93 that's my girl. so glad that we can trust each other.

sheybey101:

Nick then asks Sheyna to send him some pictures of her in her bathing suit at camp. Sheyna is flattered, but it makes her feel a little uncomfortable. She decides to send the pictures anyway. Nick always talks about how mature she seems, and she doesn't want to make him think otherwise.

One day after soccer practice, Sheyna's best friend, Grace, asks to borrow her phone. Without trying to snoop, Grace sees a few sexts (sexually explicit text messages) between Sheyna and Nick. Grace doesn't know much about Nick, which is strange because she and Sheyna usually tell each other about their crushes. Grace decides to ask Sheyna about her relationship with Nick.

Directions

Based on the story you just read, answer the following questions as if you were Sheyna. Write your responses in the spaces provided.

1. How did you meet Nick, and how often do you talk to him?

2. Is Nick older than you? By how much?

3. Has Nick ever asked you to keep your relationship secret? In what way?

4. Have you ever felt uncomfortable with anything that Nick has asked you to do?

Now answer the following questions as if you were Grace, not Sheyna.

1. Does it seem like Nick is manipulating Sheyna? Why or why not?

2. Why might this be a sensitive issue for Sheyna?

3. What advice would you give Sheyna about her relationship with Nick?

Lesson Assessments

Overexposed: Sexting and Relationships

1. The word “sexting” has to do with sharing a specific kind of content. Sexting is:

- a) Getting a text that says you look nice
- b) Sending or receiving a text about going on a date
- c) Sharing any photos by text message
- d) Sending or receiving sexually explicit photos or videos by text message or other digital media

2. Sexting by minors, or kids under age 18, is illegal in some states.

- a) True
- b) False

3. Read the following situations below and circle whether they are risky or safe uses of digital media in romantic relationships.

Hector sends his cell phone number to his crush in a private message on Facebook.	Risky	Safe
Adam asks his girlfriend to say sexually explicit things in an IM conversation.	Risky	Safe
Monica surprises her crush by taking off some of her clothes during a video chat.	Risky	Safe
Ariel’s boyfriend wants her to send him a naked photo. She texts him: “Only if you text me one first.”	Risky	Safe
Cristina texts her boyfriend a picture of her at the Great Wall of China.	Risky	Safe
Jack tweets “I have the best girlfriend ever!”	Risky	Safe

Risky Online Relationships

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- 1. True or false: Most people who ask teens to talk about sexual things online are older adults.**
- a) True
 - b) False
- 2. Mimi just signed up for online chat. How can she avoid getting into risky online chat situations? Read the following choices and then select the best answer.**
- a) Avoid chat during evening and night
 - b) Tell others she meets online that she is older than she actually is
 - c) Avoid flirting with people online
 - d) Tell others she meets online that she is already in a relationship
- 3. Melissa is chatting with someone she only knows online. She starts to feel uncomfortable about what they're talking about. Which actions could Melissa take to make the situation better? Circle all that apply.**
- a) Stop talking to the person altogether
 - b) Ask a friend to talk to the person and pretend to be her
 - c) Don't do anything
 - d) Log off of chat for a while
 - e) Keep talking with the person anyway
 - f) Change the subject
 - g) Block the user name

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