

Let's Learn English From a Podcast!

Lesson 2

Warm-up (15 minutes): The card game “Anomia”

Review of the previous podcast episode (20 minutes):

1. Recall key details from the previous podcast episode and discuss them. (10 minutes):

- What are some unique characteristics of the town Rockwall, Texas?
- What is the daily life like for middle school students in this town?
- How do they describe the school and its students?
- How does the occasional fight at school reveal the social dynamics among teenagers today?

(The goal is to recall details, express your understanding, and form opinions based on what you heard.)

2. Discuss cultural differences (10 minutes).

- How do the community structures of Rockwall, Texas, and your hometown in Japan differ?
- How does the podcast's depiction of youth culture and interaction (through TikTok, Instagram, etc.) compare with your understanding of youth culture in Japan?
- The podcast describes the town of Rockwall as ‘boring’. How would you describe your hometown, and how does it compare?
- Reflect on how the religious community, as described through the example of the Lake Point Baptist Church, contrasts with Japan.

(The goal is to focus on comprehension, recall, and discussion.)

Listening to the next part of the podcast (50 minutes):

1. Vocabulary and Slang Multiple Choice (15 minutes)

Match the vocabulary and slang terms to their definitions:

1. Tea accounts
 - a. A social media platform that allows users to upload photos and videos.
 - b. Social media accounts that share or ‘spill’ gossip, often related to celebrities or public figures.
 - c. A free online service where people can share messages and send files, typically used by gaming groups.
2. Ship
 - a. A type of account on social media platforms known for sharing rumors.
 - b. The act of imagining or endorsing a romantic relationship between two characters or people who are not together in reality.
 - c. The influence or power a person has on the internet.
3. Reddit
 - a. A social media platform known for short-form mobile videos.
 - b. A professional who gives advice to students about academic, social, or personal problems.
 - c. An online collection of forums where people can share news, content, and have discussions.
4. Discord
 - a. A free online service where people can share messages, make voice or video calls, and send files.
 - b. An account on social media platforms that posts pictures of students sleeping in class.
 - c. Social media accounts that share gossip, often related to celebrities.
5. Instagram
 - a. A social media platform that allows users to upload photos and videos.
 - b. The influence or power a person has on the internet.
 - c. An online collection of forums where people can share news, content, and have discussions.
6. TikTok
 - a. A social media platform known for short-form mobile videos.
 - b. A professional who gives advice to students about academic, social, or personal problems.
 - c. A free online service where people can share messages, make voice or video calls, and send files.

7. Gossip account
 - a. An account on social media platforms that posts pictures of students sleeping in class.
 - b. A type of account on social media platforms known for sharing rumors, information, or drama.
 - c. A social media platform that allows users to upload photos and videos.
8. Internet clout
 - a. The act of imagining or endorsing a romantic relationship between two characters.
 - b. The influence or power a person has on the internet.
 - c. A professional who gives advice to students about academic, social, or personal problems.
9. Guidance counselor
 - a. A free online service where people can share messages, make voice or video calls, and send files.
 - b. A professional who gives advice to students about academic, social, or personal problems.
 - c. Social media accounts that share gossip, often related to celebrities.
10. @WMS.sleeps
 - a. An account on social media platforms that posts pictures of students sleeping in class.
 - b. A social media platform that allows users to upload photos and videos.
 - c. The act of imagining or endorsing a romantic relationship between two characters.

2. Listen and Fill in the Blanks (20 minutes)

1. The accounts that post these, the social media pages, are known as _____, from the phrase, spilling the tea.
2. On mostly _____ and _____, you'll see dozens of accounts with usernames like WMS.T, WMS Gossip 2021, WMS_gossip_rumors_ship.
3. People that create _____ accounts are interesting.
4. That's the _____ of our school student council, and part of the committee made to deal with these accounts.
5. Almost all of these accounts are managed _____.
6. And it's clear that the intention behind them is to stir up _____ and get internet clout.
7. Just as an estimate, how many of these accounts do you think there are? Oh gosh, I have no _____.
8. We found 81 accounts for _____ just for this year.
9. There's an account called _____.
10. Just pictures of people _____ in class.
11. Does anybody know that you _____ this account?
12. It usually starts out just for _____, um, but I think some people are malicious and they do it to be mean.

Answer Key:

1. Instagram, TikTok
2. idea
3. WMS.sleeps
4. president
5. fun
6. gossip
7. tea accounts
8. run
9. sleeping
10. our school
11. anonymously
12. drama

3. Post-Listening Discussion: (15 minutes)

- What are your thoughts on these “tea accounts”?
- How does the culture of these accounts reflect the behavior and interests of teenagers today?
- What do you think about the school student council’s response to these accounts?
- Why do you think about the student who created the WMS.sleeps account?
- How do you think these accounts impact the students and the school environment?

(The aim of this activity is to promote understanding, but also critical thinking and discussion.)

4. **Wrap up (10 minutes):** Summarize the key points of the podcast. How does social media play a significant role in modern teenage life? Please share any questions or observations you might have about the podcast or the activities we did during the class.