***“Tips\* for safe social networking”***

Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, blogs, etc., -- the number of social networking sites is exploding. Social Networking is THE app of the Internet for everyone… But when using social networking sites, remember that you have to protect your identity and to be careful about hackers. Cyberbullying can also happen if you are confronted to people with bad intentions. They can harass you by sending mean messages, spreading secrets or rumors about you online…

Don’t share**\*** Too Much Information (TMI) on social networks : never share your home address or home phone number (however sharing your business phone is ok), bank account information... etc.

You have to understand that the person who has lots of “friends” isn’t necessarily the winner in social networking, unless**\*** of course they are running for president**\*** … It is better to add people who really are your friends and not “fake” friends…

Some users can become addicted to social networking sites because they lose**\*** focus on what’s really important in life. Don’t ever forget : real life is more important than virtual life.

Of course, social networking sites also have their advantages. On personal social networks, users share their feelings, opinions, common interests with people they are usually friends with; whereas on professional networks, the goal and the intention is to connect with future employers and/or brands. Professional networks are used to get updates about new career opportunities and to stay in touch with useful contacts.

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**VOCABULARY**

**Tips** : des conseils

 **To share** : partager
 **Unless** : à moins que
 **Running for president** : être candidat à la présidence