

NORTH STAR 3e Level 5

Name _____

Video Activity Worksheet

Unit 4: Trends

The IM Code

Comprehension

Predict

This video is about how instant messaging and text messaging have changed the way people communicate. Before you watch the video, answer the following question.

Do you think instant messaging and text messaging have helped or hurt the way people communicate?

Focus

Watch the video. Find the answer to the following question.

By next year, how many text messages will be sent every day?

Comprehension A

Choose the correct answer. Circle a, b, or c.

1. Which of the following is not true about instant messaging and text messaging?
 - a. Teens purposely use abbreviations and acronyms that adults might not understand.
 - b. Instant messaging and text messaging have their own etiquette.
 - c. Adults use different symbols and abbreviations than teens use.
2. What does Lynne Truss believe about instant messaging and text messaging?
 - a. They help people understand the meaning of words.
 - b. They are ruining the English language.
 - c. It's better to talk rather than send an instant message or a text message.

Comprehension B

Answer the questions.

1. How has written communication changed since instant messaging and text messaging have become so common?

2. What does Lynne Truss say about using all lower case letters and using all capital letters?



Speaking

Choose one of the topics. Record and submit a one-to-two-minute response.

- Do you think children's and teenagers' use of instant messages and text messages have made it more difficult for teachers to teach the correct way to write and speak? What do you think teachers can do about this?
- Some researchers think that use of instant messaging and text messaging changes the way people think as well as the way they speak and write. They feel it is a problem that people expect immediate and constant contact with others. Do you agree? Explain, and give examples.

Writing

What is your opinion of the email and IM code? Do abbreviations ruin a language, or do they make communication more efficient? Is this code becoming a separate language, or is it just a sloppy form of more conventional language?

