



## TEXT #6

### *The Uses of Social Media*

**By brillblonde, a teen blogger and writer of poetry  
who posts entries on Teenink.com**

Date: posted in November, 2012

Complexity Level: Measures at 1060L.

Teen voice and syntax make for an easy read accessible to all high school students.

Source/Link: Teenink.com, self described as “a national teen magazine, book series, and website devoted entirely to teenage writing, art, photos and forums.

Students must be age 13-19 to participate, register and/or submit work.”

[http://teenink.com/opinion/pop\\_culture\\_trends/article/508056/The-Uses-of-Social-Media/](http://teenink.com/opinion/pop_culture_trends/article/508056/The-Uses-of-Social-Media/)

#### TEXT NOTES

This text presents students with another perspective on social media, from the point of view of a student writer and blogger. For that reason, it represents both an easily accessible read and an opportunity to discuss the credibility of blog posts, and particularly posts from somewhat anonymous voices (who is brillblonde?). Though the writing is less professional than many of the other texts, it is also typical of much of what is being currently written and published on the Internet. It also discusses examples of students who are using social media to make a name (and even a potential career) for themselves, and thus could be a jumping off point for research into career pathways and opportunities related to the unit’s topic and area of investigation.

Sample Text-Dependent Questions (to drive initial close reading and discussion):

1. What evidence in this post tells you something about the author, her perspective, and her views about social media? What makes her credible to you as a reader? Not credible?
2. The author concludes by saying, “Using social media, we can create a known presence of ourselves worldwide.” What evidence is presented to support this broad conclusion? Is it a well-reasoned or logical assertion? Do you as a reader agree?