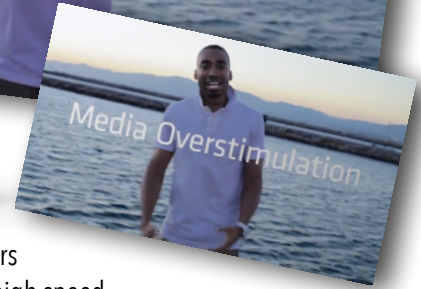
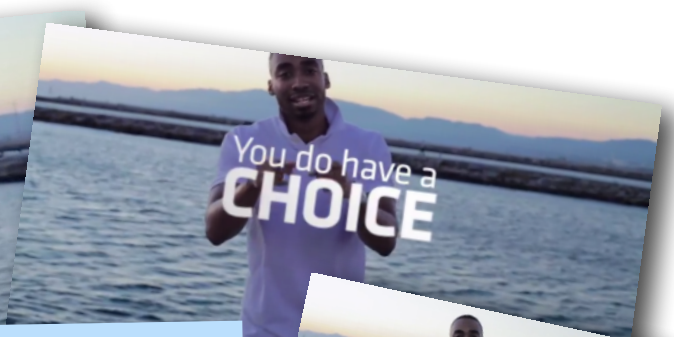


Weekly English Practice



12th February 2015
English Coaching Projects



CAN WE 'AUTO-CORRECT' HUMANITY?

A Rap by Prince Ea about our digital obsessions

Read this rap and listen to the audio or watch the video

Video: <http://youtu.be/dR18EIhrQjQ>

Audio: <https://princeea.bandcamp.com/track/can-we-auto-correct-humanity>

ain't it: informal form of 'isn't it' or 'hasn't it'

selfish: egotistic, self-absorbed, insensitive

'cause: contraction of 'because' (informal)

bugging: to upset – to make someone unhappy or worried

omg: abbreviation of "oh my god"

srs: abbreviation of "serious"

a snap: a quick picture or photo (also: a short period of time)

smh: "shake my head", to disapprove of something

ADD: Attention Deficit Disorder

LTE: a high speed wireless network for mobile phones (4G), an abbreviation of Long Term Evolution

spoil: to ruin, to stop a person enjoying something

insanity: mental instability, craziness, lunacy

Did you know the average person spends 4 years of his life looking down at his cell phone?

Kind of ironic, **ain't it**?

How these touch-screens can make us lose touch

But it's no wonder in a world filled with iMac's, iPads and iPhones

So many "i"'s, so many selfies, not enough "us"'s and "we"'s

See, technology

Has made us more **selfish** and separate than ever

'Cause while it claims to connect us, connection has gotten no better

And let me express first

Mr. Zuckerberg, not to be rude but you should re-classify

Facebook to what it is:

An anti-social network

'Cause while we may have big friend lists

So many of us are friendless

All alone

'Cause friendships are more broken than the screens on our very

phones

We sit at home on our computers measuring self-worth by numbers of followers and likes

Ignoring those who actually love us

It seems we'd rather write

An angry post than talk to someone who might actually hug us

Am I **bugging**? You tell me

'Cause I asked a friend the other day, "Let's meet up face to face."

And said, "Alright. What time you wanna Skype?"

I responded with **omg**, **srs**, and then a bunch of **smh**'s

And realised what about me?

Do I not have the patience to have conversation without abbreviation?

This is the generation of media over stimulation

Chats have been reduced to **snaps**

The news is 140 characters

Videos are 6 seconds at high speed

And you wonder why **ADD** is on the rise faster than 4G **LTE**

But, get a load of this

Studies show the attention span of the average adult today

Is one second lower than that of a gold fish

So if, you're one of the few people or aquatic animals that have yet to click off or close this video, congratulations

Let me finish by saying you do have a choice, yes

But this one my friends we cannot Auto-Correct - we must do it ourselves

Take control or be controlled, make a decision

Me?

No longer do I want to **spoil** a precious moment by recording it with a phone

I'm just gonna keep them

I don't wanna take a picture of all my meals anymore - I'm just gonna eat them

I don't want the new app, the new software, or the new update

And If I wanna post an old photo, who says I have to wait until Thursday

I'm so tired of performing in the pageantry of vanity

And conforming to this accepted form of digital **insanity**

Call me crazy but, I imagine a world where we smile when we have low batteries

'Cause that will mean we'll be one bar closer - to humanity.



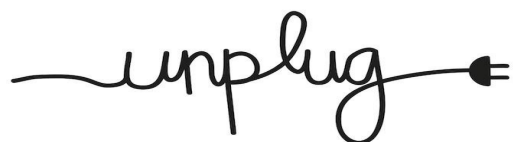
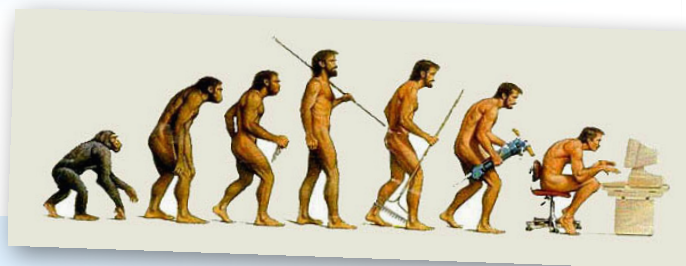
“iLook, iThink, iSpeak” Express yourself better!

Are you a technology addict?

Answer these questions honestly...

#Do you check your smartphone unnecessarily?

#Do you habitually check Facebook and Gmail at work? **#Do you google everything instead of working stuff out for yourself?** **#Do you check in to places on Google Maps without thinking why?** **#Do you regularly switch videos on YouTube after a minute if it seems boring?** **#Do you ever turn off your data connection?**



Perhaps you need a tech break!

Try some of these ideas...

Set up gadget-free zones in your home — maybe the bedroom or kitchen table, or both. In those settings, make it a strict rule that there are no smartphones, tablets or laptops allowed.

Suggest having a tech free day at work. Instead of sending a WhatsApp to colleagues in the next office, go & talk to them face to face!

If you just want to listen to music on your device switch it to airplane mode so you won't be disturbed by texts, emails & notifications

Have a disconnected weekend. Phone a friend on a landline. Go out without your smartphone. Have a meal without taking a photo of your food. Read a book, Write a letter with pen & paper.

Go for a long walk with a loved one and/or friend where you know there will be no network coverage and TALK!

AUTO-CORRECT YOUR LIFE AND RECONNECT WITH HUMANITY!

“Something to chat about”

(from page 1)

- What is Prince Ea's message in the rap?
- Do you agree with him?
- Do you Facebook? Why/Why not?
- Do you tweet regularly or instagram?
- Have you ever photographed your lunch?
- What do you use WhatsApp for?
- How much time do you spend online per day?
- Have you made any real friends online?
- Would you go on a date with someone you 'met' online?
- Does humanity need to 'auto-correct'?
- Can you remember life before the smartphone?
- Do you ever disconnect? Do you want to?

