

Disney bans selfie sticks at theme parks

30th June, 2015



Disney will ban selfie sticks at all of its theme parks around the world from July the 1st. The entertainment giant has become the latest company to ban the sticks. Universal Studios was one of the

first companies to put a ban in place. Many museums now also ban them. Kim Prunty, a Disney spokeswoman, said the ban was because of concerns that the sticks were dangerous for customers and Disney workers. She said: "We strive to provide a great experience for the entire family, and unfortunately, selfie sticks have become a growing safety concern for both our guests and cast." She added that staff have had to stop rides because people were using selfie sticks on them.

Selfie sticks have become very popular in recent years. They were designed so that people with mobile cameras could take photos of themselves. It seems as though everyone in the world is taking self-portraits to put on Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites. Even the president of the USA has been seen taking selfies. However, many people are getting angry with others who use selfie sticks, especially at tourist attractions. One passenger who used the stick on a rollercoaster at Disney California Adventure shut the ride down for nearly an hour. The PC World magazine offers a solution. It wrote: "Maybe you should...use the selfie sticks that we're all born with - your arms."

Sources: Reuters / PC World / TIME

Writing

Selfie sticks should be banned. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

ban / theme parks / entertainment / museums / concerns / dangerous / customers / popular / photos / self-portraits / social media / tourist attractions / rollercoaster

True / False

- Disney will ban selfie sticks at theme parks from next year. T / F
- Disney is the world's first theme park operator to ban selfie sticks. T / F
- A Disney spokeswoman said selfie sticks caused a danger to staff. T / F
- Disney has had to stop rides because someone used a selfie stick. T / F
- Selfie sticks were designed for old people without cameras. T / F
- Everyone on Facebook uses a selfie stick. T / F
- The U.S. President takes selfies. T / F
- A magazine suggested our arms are our natural selfie sticks. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. ban | a. particularly |
| 2. workers | b. whole |
| 3. provide | c. appears |
| 4. entire | d. becoming |
| 5. concern | e. prohibit |
| 6. designed | f. answer |
| 7. seems | g. staff |
| 8. getting | h. worry |
| 9. especially | i. created |
| 10. solution | j. give |

Discussion – Student A

- Do people take too many photos of themselves?
- What would the world be like without social media sites?
- What do you think of rollercoasters?
- What would you say to a person with a selfie stick on a rollercoaster?
- What do you think of taking self-portraits using camera drones?
- Would you buy a selfie stick?
- Is PC World's solution a good one?
- What questions would you like to ask the boss of Disney?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Disney will ban selfie sticks at | a. had to stop rides |
| 2. the latest company to | b. a ban in place |
| 3. one of the first companies to put | c. attractions |
| 4. provide a great experience | d. portraits |
| 5. She added that staff have | e. for the entire family |
| 6. Selfie sticks have become very | f. all of its theme parks |
| 7. taking self- | g. getting angry |
| 8. many people are | h. ban the sticks |
| 9. tourist | i. with - your arms |
| 10. use the selfie sticks that we're all born | j. popular in recent years |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of selfies?
- What do you think of Disney's ban on selfie sticks?
- Why do people take so many selfies?
- What do you think of Disney?
- How dangerous are selfie sticks?
- Do you like photos of yourself?
- What do you like to take photos of?
- Should Disney also ban cameras in its theme parks?

Spelling

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- The entertainment ignat
- the esaltt company to ban the sticks
- mesusum now also ban them
- the sticks were esaondrgu
- a growing safety concern for both our egsuts
- very arppoul
- They were esgdedin
- social idmae sites
- tiosutr attractions
- One esgasenpr who used the stick
- The PC World magazine offers a oilnstuo

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. g	3. j	4. b	5. h
6. i	7. c	8. d	9. a	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Selfies

You think selfies are the best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things photos so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): wedding photos, photos of nature or photos of food.

Role B – Wedding photos

You think wedding photos are the best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things photos so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): selfies, photos of nature or photos of food.

Role C – Photos of nature

You think photos of nature are the best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things photos so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): wedding photos, selfies or photos of food.

Role D – Photos of food

You think photos of food are the best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things photos so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): wedding photos, photos of nature or selfies.

Speaking – Photos

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| • nature photos | • selfies |
| • family photos | • photos of babies |
| • wedding photos | • photos of food |
| • celebrity pics | • photos of kittens |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.