

## A billion people on Facebook in one day

30th August, 2015



Over one billion people used Facebook last Monday. This is the first time the site has had this many visitors in one day. The CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg, said it was an important achievement for his company. He posted on

his own Facebook profile that: "We just passed an important milestone. For the first time ever, one billion people used Facebook in a single day." He said that on Monday, "one in seven people on Earth used Facebook to connect with their friends and family". He added that: "This was the first time we reached this milestone, and it's just the beginning of connecting the whole world." Mr Zuckerberg also said a connected world, "brings stronger relationships with those you love".

Zuckerberg created Facebook in 2004, while he was a student at Harvard University. The website quickly became one of the biggest sites in the world. Today, it has nearly 1.5 billion users and Zuckerberg thinks that number will grow. In October 2012, he announced that Facebook had one billion users who used the site at least once a month. Three years later, the site had one billion visitors in just one day. Zuckerberg said the company needs to grow a lot in countries where Facebook isn't so popular, such as many African and Asian countries and some in Central and South America. Facebook has made Zuckerberg the ninth richest person in the world, at the age of 31.

Sources: BBC / Telegraph.co.uk / Sky.com

## Writing

What are the pros and cons of social networking? What laws are needed? Why?

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*one billion / the first time / visitors / achievement / profile / single / connect / stronger / student / website / announced / countries / popular / ninth / richest / the age of 31*

## True / False

- A billion people visited Facebook in one day for the second time. T / F
- Facebook's CEO said a billion visitors in a day wasn't so important. T / F
- One in seven of Earth's population visited Facebook last Monday. T / F
- Facebook's CEO said a connected world makes stronger relationships. T / F
- Mark Zuckerberg created Facebook over 10 years ago. T / F
- Facebook has just over two billion users today. T / F
- Facebook had a billion users in October 2012. T / F
- Mark Zuckerberg is one of the top five richest people in the world. T / F

## Synonym Match

- |                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. CEO           | a. wrote                   |
| 2. important     | b. almost                  |
| 3. posted        | c. connections             |
| 4. reached       | d. made                    |
| 5. relationships | e. significant             |
| 6. created       | f. well-liked              |
| 7. nearly        | g. arrived at              |
| 8. grow          | h. wealthiest              |
| 9. popular       | i. Chief Executive Officer |
| 10. richest      | j. increase                |

## Discussion – Student A

- Why do you think Facebook is so popular?
- How does Facebook compare to other social network sites?
- How long do you spend on social networks every day?
- What do you think about what you read?
- What would life be like without the Internet?
- How much does social media help make relationships stronger?
- What is your favourite social network, and why?
- Are there any dangers to using Facebook?

# BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

## Phrase Match

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. it was an                            | a. seven people          |
| 2. one in                               | b. popular               |
| 3. the first time we reached this       | c. whole world           |
| 4. just the beginning of connecting the | d. sites in the world    |
| 5. stronger relationships with          | e. least once a month    |
| 6. one of the biggest                   | f. important achievement |
| 7. that number                          | g. richest person        |
| 8. used the site at                     | h. those you love        |
| 9. where Facebook isn't so              | i. will grow             |
| 10. the ninth                           | j. milestone             |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about the boss of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg?
- How many more people do you think will use Facebook?
- Why is Facebook free?
- How safe or dangerous is it for young people to use Facebook?
- What would you do to make Facebook better?
- What will Facebook be like in 10 years from now?
- What do you think of the name 'Facebook'?
- What questions would you like to ask Mark Zuckerberg?

## Spelling

- this many tvsiors
- an atntrmipo achievement
- his own Facebook orelpfi
- we hdceaer this milestone
- inetccgnno the whole world
- stronger rsonsethiapil
- Zuckerberg dtecera Facebook in 2004
- at aetls once a month
- the mpynoac needs to grow
- where Facebook isn't so orpalpu
- nlCaert and South America
- the hntin richest person

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Facebook

You think Facebook is the most useful site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): the BBC, Breaking News English or Google.

### Role B – The BBC

You think the BBC is the most useful site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): Facebook, Breaking News English or Google.

### Role C – Breaking News English

You think Breaking News English is the most useful site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): the BBC, Facebook or Google.

### Role D – Google

You think Google is the most useful site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): the BBC, Breaking News English or Facebook.

## Speaking – Sites

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

- |               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| • Google      | • Facebook            |
| • Apple       | • Twitter             |
| • Weather.com | • BBC                 |
| • eBay        | • BreakingNewsEnglish |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	F
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.