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## Complete English grammar course

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# Advanced English Reading Lessons

## Lesson 1 (60 minutes)

- 5 minutes Conversation and discussion
- 30 minutes: Reading
- 20 minutes Writing
- 5 minutes Conversation and discussion

Read the text below then answer the questions below:

## United States Launch Investigation into TikTok's Effect on Kids' Health

New vocabulary:

Violate, Promote, Vandalism, Go Viral, Investigation, Algorithm.

### Lesson Instructions

Listen to the audio file, then read the short text and finally answer the questions below.

TikTok, known in China as Douyin, is a video-focused social networking service owned by Chinese company ByteDance Ltd. It hosts a variety of short-form user videos, from genres like pranks, stunts, tricks, jokes, dance, and entertainment with durations from 15 seconds to ten minutes.

### What is TikTok?

TikTok is a short-form, video-sharing app that allows users to create and share 15-second videos, on any topic.

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TikTok maintains a separate app for the Chinese market, known as DUYIN, which has over 300 million active monthly users. The new app's logo is a combination of the Musical.ly and DUYIN logos.

### **How it Differs From Musical.ly**

The TikTok app is based on the same short-form video concept but is much broader in scope and unlike Musical.ly does not only focus on lip syncing to music. ,

The TikTok app offers users a wide selection of sounds and song snippets, along with the option to add special effects and filters. There is also an option to directly add videos created on your phone.

In September, TikTok added the reactions feature which allows users to record their reactions to videos and share. TikTok has also added a digital well-being feature that alerts users when they spend over two hours on the app.

The new app is being promoted as a video-sharing social network. TikTok users can create a variety of videos ranging from challenges, dance videos, magic tricks, and funny videos. The key differentiating factor between Musical.ly and Tik Tok is that the latter has a much broader scope for video creation.

### **Writing Exercise**

**In 50 words write about each of the three questions below. Total 150 words.**

- **Is TiKToK a good idea for young girls and women to use?**
- **Is there any kind of exploitation taking place?**
- **Are you worried about the Chinese connection?**

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### **QUESTIONS: (audio)**

#### **How does the reporter introduce the topic?**

- She mentions suicidal tendencies of TikTok users.
- She mentions dangerous challenges on TikTok.
- She mentions which states want to ban TikTok.

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**What are the states investigating?**

- The negative effects of technology on kids' physical health
- The effects of TikTok on kids' mental health
- The harmful effects of social media on parents of teens

**Why does the report mention Beijing?**

- The investigation is based in China.
- Many kids in Beijing are addicted to video games.
- TikTok is a Beijing-based video company.

**What are lawmakers criticizing TikTok for?**

- The age restrictions on the platform
- The algorithms that promote dangerous activities
- The lack of videos about mental health

**How did the company respond?**

- They denied that child safety is an issue on their platform.
- They asked the states to find proof of the effects on kids' mental health.
- They offered to share information on their protections for young people.