

Name: _____ Date Due: _____

8th Grade Language Arts



Assignment	Points Earned
Article Analysis	
Article Annotation – “Start an online post...”	
BookBlog #14 – Reading Response	
Grammar #02	
Journals 67,68,69	
No GL cards this week	fyi

Total=>

Start an online post, then delete it? Many websites save it anyway

By Drew Harwell, Washington Post

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When a Facebook user starts to post a photo, but decides not to and cancels, the social network still keeps a copy — saving a memory of something the person chose not to share, or wanted instead to forget.

That fact surprised users on December 14, when Facebook announced it had not just saved those photos, but, for up to 6 million users, inadvertently exposed them to a huge group of third-party apps.

Yet it's not just Facebook holding onto the ghosts of our Internet pasts. Many websites start sharing or saving the text, photos or other information before we commit with a click of "Post," "Enter" or "Submit," and sometimes even after we choose to delete.

Many online users have a general sense that they're being tracked online — a long-lasting footprint of browser "cookies," website log-ins and search histories that can follow them around the Web. That data can generally help speed up web browsing and allow websites to more precisely track a person for purposes of search or advertising.

But some websites go a step further, by allowing the company to see what its users are currently typing. LiveAgent, an online chat service that companies use for customer service, offers a "real-time typing view" of everything a customer writes before hitting "Send message," saying it will allow the representative to begin preparing a response quicker. "Customers will appreciate your quick and precise answers," the company's website says.

David Cacik, an official at Quality Unit, which develops LiveAgent, said companies get to choose whether they want to alert people that their typing is being watched, saying it's "up to them to inform their users."

Fewer people know about this special kind of "undead" data — discarded by the user, but still saved by the site. And experts say companies aren't doing enough to educate privacy-minded users already anxious about what they're leaving behind.

People "don't realize that apps can track not only what you post, but any activity on the app," said Tiffany Li, a fellow at Yale Law School's Information Society Project. "And if people don't know the risks, they haven't been well-informed. That's on the companies."

This data can help designers and engineers pinpoint what might have caused a user to get distracted, discouraged or annoyed enough to not finish their work. But it also opens the possibility that users will unthinkingly offer information they weren't ready to fully share, in the belief they were the only one looking on.

It's hard to know how many websites keep this stuff saved. But Princeton University researchers last year found that hundreds of websites recorded all of their users' mouse movements and typed text — without telling the users they were doing so — in such detail that a site could "replay" everything that a user had said or done.

This type of software was found on the websites of WordPress, Spotify, LiveJournal and many others, though the presence of it didn't mean everything was being recorded, and websites had a choice in whether to save the data. The tracking, researchers wrote, could expose users' medical conditions, credit-card details, passwords and other sensitive information to scams and identity theft.

Facebook said December 14 it had saved the photos that users abandoned before sending just in case users wanted to finish posting them later. And email services such as Google's Gmail and social-media sites such as Twitter automatically save "drafts" of what people typed for later sending or deletion.

But officials from Instagram and Twitter say they don't upload messages, photos or videos onto their servers until they're posted. The drafts are saved locally on the person's phone, and are viewable only by them. Instagram, which is owned by Facebook, also says it wasn't affected by that Facebook bug.

Retail websites have also for years stored similar data on abandoned online shopping carts — in which users said they wanted to buy something, but ended up not finishing the purchase. The sites will often send reminder emails to nudge users into sealing the deal. "Why did you leave me?!" says one such email from BlackMilk, an online clothing store.

Not every company stockpiles its users' data. Snapchat, the video-sharing app in which most messages self-destruct, uploads content as an encrypted file to its servers once someone starts a message. But if that user has second thoughts before sending, the keys to decrypt it are never created, and the unsent message is deleted within 24 hours or less.

But peeking at unposted messages is not new territory for many companies, including Facebook. In 2013, two workers there compiled data from 4 million users on what they called "last-minute self-censorship" — status updates, posts or comments that were written, then deleted.

About 70 percent of monitored users, they found, had done so over a period of about two weeks, and that rate changed based on lots of factors, including the makeup of their friend groups. But the focus of the research was all business: With too much self-censorship, they wrote, the social network "loses value from the lack of content generation."

Even if users read the privacy policies — a rarity, since many are dreadfully long and technically complex — it's not always so clear that their unsent thoughts will be saved and stored. Facebook's data policy says, "We collect the content, communications and other information you provide when you use our Products," but doesn't specifically mention unsent photos or messages.

Users can delete their accounts, but there's no way to go in and re-delete what they've already deleted. "We store data until it is no longer necessary to provide our services and Facebook Products, or until your account is deleted — whichever comes first," the policy says.

QUIZ

1. Read the following two summaries of the article.

1. *Facebook has long been guilty of saving users' unposted photos. The magnitude of the problem goes beyond Facebook, however. The practice permeates the social media industry. Worse, most users are completely unaware that their typing is being tracked.*
2. *Facebook and other companies have adopted a practice of saving users' typed data online even if that data is not posted or submitted. Users tend to be unaware of this practice, largely because companies are not transparent about the practice.*

Which option provides an objective, accurate summary of the article, and why?

- (A) Option 1; because the summary makes it clear that there is a huge problem with online companies and who is completely responsible for the problem.
- (B) Option 1; because the summary clearly describes a serious problem with online companies and correctly blames the companies for the problem.
- (C) Option 2; because the summary provides details about specific practices engaged in by online companies and those who lack knowledge of this practice.
- (D) Option 2; because the summary describes a specific practice engaged in by online companies and explains why users are unaware of the practice.

2. Which of the following claims does the author support the LEAST?

- (A) Retail websites have a history of storing users' data.
- (B) Online companies' tracking of user data could lead to criminal activity.
- (C) Online companies can alert users that all of their typed data is stored.
- (D) Users' online activities are tracked in several different ways.

3. Read the following paragraph from the article.

People "don't realize that apps can track not only what you post, but any activity on the app," said Tiffany Li, a fellow at Yale Law School's Information Society Project. "And if people don't know the risks, they haven't been well-informed. That's on the companies."

Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the paragraph?

- (A) Li and the Yale Law School's Information Society Project are aiming to get app companies to stop tracking users' posts.
- (B) Li believes that people have the misconception that apps lack the capability to track their posts and activities on their apps.
- (C) Li's perspective on using apps is that they are risky and people should take the time to inform themselves about the risks.
- (D) Li believes that users lack an awareness about being tracked on apps because the app companies want it that way.

4. Which of the following statements accurately represents the relationship between the article's CENTRAL ideas?

- (A) Some websites allow companies to see what users are currently typing; LiveAgent is an online chat service used by companies for customer service.
- (B) Facebook users often start to post a photo, but change their mind and do not post it; when this occurred in the past, Facebook both saved the photo and shared it.
- (C) Many online companies store users' "undead" data; these companies rarely inform the users what happens to this data.
- (D) Software exists that records all of a user's mouse movements and typed text; just because a company has such software does not mean they collect the data.

Reading Response Choice

Directions: As you read, put a sticky note next to any line, sentence, or section that jumps out at you. Write a brief note on your sticky note so that you can remember what you were thinking about that section. (If nothing jumps out at you by the time you have finished reading, go back and **FIND** something to respond to.)

When finished reading, write your Reading Response on the back of this paper.

YOU MUST:

- Write **at least ten (10) complete sentences** in your Reading Response.
- Give the **page number, paragraph, or line number** of the part you are responding to.
- **Highlight** which Reading Response entry you are using from the list below.

Types of Reading Response Entries

- 1. Interesting Intro or Clever Conclusion:**
You think the author's introduction or conclusion interesting, clever, engaging, or effective. Tell what technique the author used and why it works so well.
- 2. Give an Opinion:**
Tell what you think or feel about a certain part of the story, and why you think or feel that way. Be specific.
- 3. Ask a Question:**
This can be a basic question about something you don't understand in the text, or a larger question (about life, literature, or anything) that the text made you consider. Explore possible answers to the question.
- 4. Make a Connection:**
As you read, a certain point in the text reminds you of another story, poem, movie, song, or something from real life. How are the two alike?
- 5. Language Recognition:**
You notice some appropriate sensory details, or figurative language such as a simile, onomatopoeia, or personification, and so on. What is the language, and how does it add to the story?
- 6. Significant Passage:**
You realize a certain part in the text is important. Maybe you found the climax. Why do you think it's important? What does it mean? What does it tell you about the entire book? Explain **why** it is so important.
- 7. Find Foreshadowing:**
You read something that seems like a hint of what will come later. Explain why you think this, and make a prediction.
- 8. Theme Recognition:**
You find a sentence or two that might be the theme (the "So what?") of the piece. Explain it in your own words.
- 9. Spot the Setting:**
You notice a part that refers to a particular place or time in the story. Why is it so important to the story?
- 10. Character Description:**
You notice a detail about a character (what he or she looks like, thinks, says, or does). Why is it important? What does it reveal about that character?
- 11. Mark the Motivation:**
You realize a character's motive(s) (what a character wants). Explain the motive(s) and its effect on the story or on other characters.
- 12. Detect the Conflict:**
You realize one of the conflicts or problems in the story. Explain it, and explain how you recognized it.
- 13. Cite the Claim:**
You find the sentence that is the author's main argument (the thesis or claim ... the most important quote in the story). Explain why you think it is the focus of the piece.

Lesson 3

Sentence Fragments

Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate to express a complete thought. The **subject** part of a sentence names who or what the sentence is about. The **predicate** part tells what the subject does or has. It can also describe what the subject is or is like.

SUBJECT PREDICATE
My friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament.

A **sentence fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject, a predicate, or both. A fragment does not express a complete thought.

Will play in the volleyball tournament. (lacks a subject)

My friend Joel. (lacks a predicate)

Without a doubt. (lacks both a subject and a predicate)

Without a doubt, my friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament.
(expresses a complete thought)

► **Exercise 1** Write *sentence* in the blank before each word group that expresses a complete thought. Write *fragment* next to each word group that does not express a complete thought.

- fragment Wore her warmest sweater.
- _____ 1. The survivors of the earthquake showed great courage.
- _____ 2. Caused problems everywhere.
- _____ 3. Every Sunday their family went hiking.
- _____ 4. Even the rain couldn't dampen their spirits.
- _____ 5. Rode calmly and quietly in the backseat.
- _____ 6. Rose in the air like a bird.
- _____ 7. Of his meal untouched.
- _____ 8. Hundreds of firefighters fought the forest fires last summer.
- _____ 9. The thought escaped him.
- _____ 10. As fragile as glass.
- _____ 11. In the park for our picnic.

_____ 12. Our newspaper arrived late on Tuesday.

_____ 13. Janette, who's coming at four.

_____ 14. Simply everywhere.

_____ 15. Postponed for the second time.

_____ 16. Ted climbed to the top of the stadium.

_____ 17. They played their very best.

_____ 18. In every nook and cranny.

_____ 19. Available at five o'clock.

_____ 20. She was preparing her résumé.

► **Exercise 2** Write a complete sentence by adding a subject, a predicate, or both to each sentence fragment. Punctuate your sentences correctly.

Grinned and cackled. **The ugly troll grinned and cackled.** _____

1. Marla and Kimberly. _____

2. On the shelves. _____

3. Dusted the books. _____

4. Maple and elm trees. _____

5. Greeted Eloisa. _____

6. At the library. _____

7. John Kimura the dentist. _____

8. Looked at Isabel. _____

9. Flat, sandy fields. _____

10. The mystery of space. _____

11. In the closet. _____

12. Busy traffic. _____

13. Carmen and her sister. _____

14. Followed the directions. _____

15. Saw the falling star. _____

16. Around the bend. _____

