


A2 TEENS · LESSON 41

# Texting & Emojis

## Talking Online

Learn what the most common texting words and emojis mean, and how to write clear, kind messages to your friends and family. Read a story, do the exercises, talk about how you text, and rewrite a rude message politely.

 45 minutes

 CEFR A2

 Texting

 Emojis

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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WARM-UP

### Think before you start

#### Before the lesson, ask yourself...

Take a minute. You don't need to write the answers — just think or tell a partner.

1. Who do you send messages to? Friends? Family?

2. Do you use emojis a lot? Which is your favourite?

3. Do you know what "lol" or "brb" means?

4. Is texting a friend different from writing to a teacher?

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LANGUAGE FOCUS

### Texting words, emojis & clear messages

## Common texting words (abbreviations)

Online, we often make words shorter. These are **informal** — use them with friends, not in school work!

**thx**

thanks

"thx for your help!"

**pls**

please

"call me pls"

**brb**

be right back

"brb, dinner time"

**btw**

by the way

"btw, it's my bday!"

**lol**

laughing out loud

= that's funny!

**idk**

I don't know

"idk, ask Mum"

**omw**

on my way

"omw, 5 mins!"

**np**

no problem

"np, see you soon"

## What do these emojis mean?

Emojis show how we **feel**. They help the reader hear your "tone" — happy, joking, or sad.



happy



funny



love it



OK/good



thanks



sad



joking



congrats!

## Writing a clear, kind message

A good message is **short** and **clear**. Start with a hello, say your message, and end nicely.

Hi / Hey

+

your message

+

a nice ending

=

Hi! Are you free later? See you! 😊

ASK

Can you call me later? / Are you free at 5?

REPLY

Sure! / OK, see you! / Sorry, I can't.

SOFTEN

Add **please**, **thanks**, or a 😊 so you don't sound rude!

## 📞 On a call: useful phrases

Sometimes we don't text — we call or video call. Here are simple phrases for that.

CALLER

Hi! Can you hear me?

YOU

Yes, I can hear you! 👍

CALLER

Can we video call? Turn on your camera!

YOU

OK! Wait a second... brb!

FORMAL (TEACHER, ADULT)

INFORMAL (FRIEND)

Thank you very much.

thx! / ty

I am sorry, I cannot come.

sorry, can't come

Could you call me, please?

call me pls

📌 Useful phrases — learn these by heart!

Can you hear me?

You're on mute!

brb

omw

Talk soon!

Did you get my message?

I'll text you

See you online

np!

🛡️ Stay safe & kind online

- Only message people you **know in real life** — friends and family.
- Never share your **address, password, or photos** with strangers.
- If a message makes you feel bad, **tell a parent or teacher**.
- Be kind: a small 😊 or **please** stops a message from sounding rude.

## Words you'll meet in the story

WORD / PHRASE	MEANING	EXAMPLE
<b>text</b> NOUN / VERB	a short written message on a phone	<i>I'll text you later.</i>
<b>message</b> NOUN	words you send to someone	<i>Did you get my message?</i>
<b>emoji</b> NOUN	a small picture that shows a feeling	<i>She sent a happy emoji.</i>
<b>reply</b> NOUN / VERB	to answer a message	<i>Please reply when you can.</i>
<b>online</b> ADJECTIVE	connected to the internet	<i>Are you online now?</i>
<b>chat</b> VERB / NOUN	to talk in a friendly way (often online)	<i>We chat every evening.</i>
<b>share</b> VERB	to send something to others	<i>Don't share your password.</i>
<b>type</b> VERB	to write with a keyboard	<i>I type fast on my phone.</i>
<b>mute</b> VERB / ADJ	to turn the sound off	<i>You're on mute — I can't hear you!</i>
<b>polite</b> ADJECTIVE	kind and respectful	<i>A "please" makes a message polite.</i>

## The Message That Went Wrong: "It's all about tone!"

*A small text, a big misunderstanding — and a happy ending*

One short word can sound friendly or cold, depending on how you write it. Here's what happened to Deniz one Saturday.

### 🗨️ A cold little message

On Saturday morning, Deniz got a **text** from his friend Aylin: "Are you coming to my party tonight?" Deniz was busy, so he quickly **typed** one word: "No." Then he put his phone away. An hour later, Aylin sent a sad **emoji** 😞. "Are you angry with me?" she wrote.

### 🗨️ What went wrong?

Deniz was surprised. He wasn't angry at all! But his **message** — just "No." — sounded cold and rude. Online, a short answer with no **please**, no **thanks**, and no emoji can hurt people. There was no "tone" in his message, so Aylin thought he was upset.

### 🗨️ A kinder reply

Deniz quickly sent a better **reply**: "Sorry! I can't come tonight — I'm at my grandma's 😞. But thank you so much for inviting me! Let's meet next week 😊 pls?" Aylin was happy again. "**np!** Have fun at your grandma's ❤️" she wrote. Deniz learned an important lesson: online, a few kind words and one little 😊 can change everything.

**Think about it:** Deniz's "No." sounded rude, but he wasn't angry. How can a short message sound cold? What words or emojis make a message kind?

## Review &amp; remember

01

**text**

NOUN / VERB

A short written message you send on a phone; or the act of sending one.

"I'll text you when I'm ready."

02

**reply**

NOUN / VERB

An answer to a message; or to answer one.

"Thanks for your quick reply!"

03

**emoji**

NOUN

A small picture that shows a feeling or idea.

"She added a laughing emoji."

04

**online**

ADJECTIVE

Connected to the internet right now.

"Are you online this evening?"

05

**polite**

ADJECTIVE

Kind and respectful to other people.

"A 'please' makes your text polite."

06

**share**

VERB

To send or give something to others. Be careful what you share!

"Never share your password."

## 6

## PRACTICE

## Fill in the blanks

Write the full word for each texting abbreviation, or the missing word. Write your answer in lower case.

- 1 "thx" is short for \_\_\_\_\_ (you say it when someone helps you)
- 2 "brb" means " \_\_\_\_\_ ". (I'm leaving for a minute)
- 3 "pls" is short for \_\_\_\_\_ (a polite word)
- 4 A small picture that shows a feeling is an \_\_\_\_\_ (😊😄😞)
- 5 "omw" means "on my \_\_\_\_\_ ". (I'm coming now!)
- 6 To answer a message is to \_\_\_\_\_ (send words back)
- 7 "I can't hear you — you're on \_\_\_\_\_ !" (the sound is off)
- 8 Adding "please" makes a message more \_\_\_\_\_ (kind and respectful)

## 7

## SPEAKING

## Talk about texting &amp; tone

## How do you talk online?

Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions about messages, emojis, and being kind online. Then change roles!

Who do you send messages to most?

What is your favourite emoji? When do you use it?

Can a short message sound rude? How?

How do you write to a teacher — the same or different?

What can you do to stay safe and kind online?

## EXAMPLE CONVERSATION

A: What's your favourite emoji?

B: The laughing one 😄! I use it when my friends are funny. And you?

A: I like the thumbs up 👍. It means "OK, good!"

B: Can a short message sound rude?

A: Yes! If I just write "No." it sounds cold. I add "Sorry" or a 😊.

B: Good idea. To a teacher I write more politely — "Could you help me, please?"

## Rewrite a rude message politely

### Make this message kind (40–60 words)

A friend wrote you a cold message: "No. Busy. Don't ask again." 😞 Rewrite it as a kind, clear message. Imagine your friend invited you somewhere but you can't go. Try to include these things:

- a friendly hello (Hi...! / Hey...!)
- say no nicely (Sorry, I can't...) and a reason
- a "thank you" (thanks for asking!)
- a plan for later (Let's meet...)
- one or two emojis and a kind ending

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## Check your understanding

1. What does "thx" mean?

A this

B thanks

C the

D thirsty

2. Your friend writes "brb". What are they saying?

A I'm angry

B be right back

C bring my book

D very bored

3. Which emoji means "that's funny"?

A 😭 (crying)

B 😂 (laughing)

C 😡 (angry)

D 😴 (sleeping)

4. Why can a message that just says "No." sound rude?

A It's too long

B No tone — no please/thanks/emoji

C It uses an emoji

D It's a question

5. How do you make a text more polite?

A Write in capitals

B Add please, thanks, or a 😊

C Send it twice

D Use no words

6. "omw" means:

A oh my word

B on my way

C only my work

D out my window

7. Which is the SAFE thing to do online?

A Share your password

B Send your address to strangers

C Only message people you know

D Reply to everyone

8. To a teacher, the BEST message is:

A "gimme the homework"

B "Could you send the homework, please?"

C "hw now"

D "No."



### Part 6 — Fill in the blanks

1. thanks
2. be right back
3. please
4. emoji
5. way
6. reply
7. mute
8. polite

### Part 9 — Quiz

1. **B** — thanks.
2. **B** — be right back.
3. **B** — 😂 laughing / that's funny.
4. **B** — no tone (no please, thanks, or emoji). *A short reply can sound cold.*
5. **B** — add please, thanks, or a 😊.
6. **B** — on my way.
7. **C** — only message people you know. *Never share private information.*
8. **B** — "Could you send the homework, please?" *Write fully and politely to a teacher.*