

## Reading

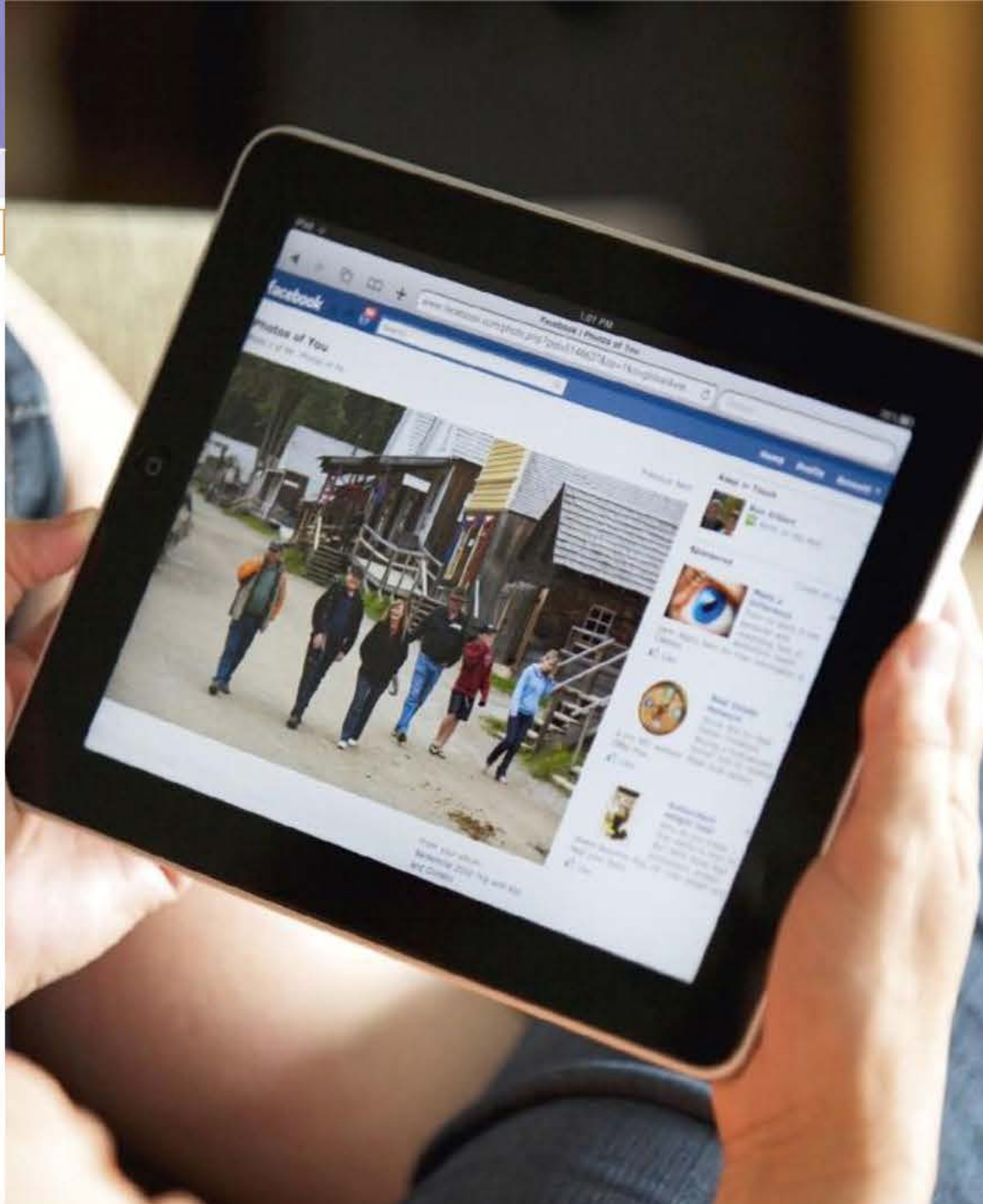
**1 a** Read the sentences and decide which ones are true for you. Rewrite the others to make them true.

- 1 I take photos of the most important events in my life.
- 2 I store my photos on my computer.
- 3 I take a lot of video recordings of people who are important to me.
- 4 I love looking at old family photos.
- 5 I like sharing photos with lots of people by putting them online.

**b** Work in pairs and compare your sentences.

**2** Work in pairs. Read the blog entry below and answer the questions.

- 1 What is 'lifelogging'?
- 2 What concerns does the writer have about making a 'lifelog'?



## My life ... a movie worth watching?

I've been wondering about this for a while and I've finally made up my mind – I've decided to become a lifelogger! I've just finished reading an interesting article about 'lifelogging' – recording your whole life digitally – and I must say, I'm inspired! Life just passes you by for so much of the time and if you're anything like me, you forget so much of what's happened. Things just slip my mind all the time – I forget everything: friends' birthdays, titles of books I want to read, names of business contacts ... but more importantly, my memories of events just become a big blur to me and the details are all lost. I wish I had taken more photos of things when I was younger, because at least I would have those. I often think it's too late ... I should've made video recordings of my school days and of holidays with my family when I was young. So, you can imagine how excited I was when I came across this article about creating a digital memory of your whole life! If I start now, maybe it won't be too late!

Apparently, a researcher at Microsoft has been experimenting with digital recording. He has spent several years recording every aspect of his life: all his communications with other people, as well as things like the images he sees, the sounds he hears and the websites he visits. The digital memory can do more than just store information you put in it, though. It can also record information that humans can't even see or hear, such as

how much oxygen is in your blood, or the levels of carbon dioxide in the air around you. It can also log the three billion or so heartbeats in someone's lifetime, along with lots of other information about your body. It's interesting and they say it can give doctors an ongoing health record of a person and provide early warnings of many kinds of illnesses, including things like possible heart attacks.

Being able to record all this information is obviously a huge step forward in making lifelogging possible. Another essential factor is the staggering growth in digital storage capacity. Today, a \$600 hard drive can hold one terabyte – that's one trillion bytes of data. That is enough to store everything you read (including emails, webpages, papers and books), all the music you buy, eight hours of speech and ten pictures a day for the next 60 years. They say that in 20 years, \$600 will buy 250 terabytes of storage – enough to hold tens of thousands of hours of video and tens of millions of photographs. That kind of capacity should be enough for anyone's recording needs for more than 100 years!

So, improvements in the hardware for digital recording have improved dramatically – and more and more people have started to create electronic chronicles of their lives. As for me, I've been writing a blog for a while and uploading photos onto it. But right now, it doesn't feel like enough. I wish I could start recording everything ... If only I had a proper digital recorder! If I had one now, I'd record myself doing this! I'm going to record everything about my life – I really am. I'm slightly concerned, however, that I might change my mind when I start recording everything. I might find that my life is really boring. A movie of my life might not be worth watching or remembering at all! I think I'll have to change my life a bit. In fact, I'm determined to make my life interesting from now on – though I'm not sure how I'll do that when I'm spending all my time recording it?!



**3** Read the blog entry again. Work in pairs and answer the questions.

What does Marco say about ...

- 1 ... his own memory?
- 2 ... photos and videos of his childhood?
- 3 ... the researcher?
- 4 ... benefits for doctors?
- 5 ... how much you can record?
- 6 ... his blog?

**4** Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

What do you think about 'lifelogging' in terms of ...

- 1 health benefits?
- 2 recording family history?
- 3 your own life?

## Vocabulary | verb phrases with *mind*

**5** Work in pairs and look at the underlined verb phrases. Look at the context of the whole sentence and say what you think each verb phrase means.

- 1 I've finally made up my mind – I've decided to become a lifelogger!
- 2 Things just slip my mind all the time – I forget everything.
- 3 I'm slightly concerned that I might change my mind when I start recording everything.
- 4 It has crossed my mind to make a lifelog, but I've never given it much real thought.
- 5 I'm wondering what to get for her birthday. Let me know if anything springs to mind.
- 6 A new camera is a really good idea for a present – I'll keep it in mind.
- 7 I've got an essay to do but I'm finding it hard to keep my mind on it.
- 8 If you asked him, he'd tell you what he thinks. He always speaks his mind.

**6 a** Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- 1 Has it ever *crossed/spoken* your mind to write a blog or make a lifelog?
- 2 Do you usually *keep/make* up your mind quickly or do you take a long time to decide things?
- 3 When was the last time something *slipped/changed* your mind and you forgot to do something important?
- 4 Have you got any good ideas that you're *springing/keeping* in mind for a present to give someone?
- 5 When you go shopping, do you often *cross/change* your mind about something when you get it home?
- 6 Do you know anyone who always *speaks/keeps* his/her mind and sometimes upsets people because of that?
- 7 Do you find it easier to *make/keep* your mind on your homework when you're listening to music or not?
- 8 When do good ideas usually *spring/slip* to mind for you – in the early morning or late at night?

**b** Work in pairs and discuss the questions from exercise 6a.