

STUDENT VOICE

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Volume X, Issue IV • June & July 2019

Can Online News Change Moroccan Views?

Yassine Zaim

Advanced 2

Nowadays, we are all media consumers. Information is everywhere. It's gotten to the point where we can't live without it. We consume information on a daily basis on our phones, which is where we spend most of our day. But the main question that runs through our head is: how has media changed?

Our community is slowly moving toward the online newspaper. TV is gradually being viewed less. The main reason for this is that some broadcast news outlets lack transparency. Sometimes it feels like we're living on the right while they're talking from the left. If you watch TV news as a foreigner, you would think that this country doesn't face any problems whatsoever, but in reality, we do. This is what pushes us Moroccans to electronic media as a source of information. Now the next question is: are these online news sources better or not?

What makes online news a better source of information is that it's instant and can be viewed anytime, anywhere, as long as you are connected to the internet. But on the other hand, the content is affected by advertising technology. Advertising is one of the main sources of money for online news companies. The main source of advertising, AdSense, works like this: Every time a user clicks on a web site, they see pop-up ads on the



screen. For every ad a reader sees, the online news company gets a small amount of money. This business model affects the credibility of the information given. News sites sometimes write headlines that don't have any relationship to the content of the article; they are just trying to draw attention (and clicks) in order to make money. This also happens on the most popular YouTube channels that deliver news.

So now, the choice is in our hands.

Are we, as consumers, going to use TV news or online news as our main source of information? As far as I am concerned, I prefer online newspapers because even though they're not always 100% straightforward, at least they don't take us for fools.

All opinions expressed in the Student Voice are the authors' own. They do not represent the opinions of the ALC-Fes.

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An Interview with Najib Krafes

Student Voice: *Where are you from? Are you originally from Fez?*

Najib Krafes: Yes, I am. I was born and raised here.

SV: *Tell us about your life as a student. Where did you study? What did you study?*

NK: Well, when I was almost five, my father took me to a Quranic school where I learned some of the short chapters in the Qur'an and some of the basics of the Arabic language. Then I studied in a small public elementary school for six years. My schooling subsequently lasted for eight years before I graduated from Moulay Idriss High School and joined Sidi Mohamed Ibn Abdellah University where I studied English literature and Linguistics for five years. Afterwards, I undertook a two-year internship, and I got a teaching certificate that allowed me to become a permanent high school teacher.

SV: *Have you ever lived outside Morocco?*

NK: No, I've never lived abroad, but I've been on vacation to some countries such as Spain, the U.S.A., and Thailand.

SV: *How long have you been teaching at the ALC?*

NK: I've been teaching here for about 22 years.

SV: *How long have you been a teacher in life?*

NK: I've been working as a teacher for nearly 39 years.

SV: *When did you decide to become a teacher? Why did you choose teaching?*

NK: When I graduated from university, I decided to become a teacher. Teaching was one of my childhood dreams; my younger brother and I used to play together, and I always enjoyed acting out the part of a teacher in our role-playing

games.

SV: *What do you enjoy most about teaching?*

NK: Helping my students learn effectively and brush up on their language skills.

SV: *Describe your teaching style in three words.*

NK: Student-centered, interactive, and motivation-based.

SV: *How is teaching at the ALC different from teaching at other schools?*

NK: Honestly, teaching in the ALC is more enjoyable; the facilities offered here make both the teaching and learning experiences richer and more fruitful for teachers and students as well.

SV: *What is the role of a teacher in the classroom?*

NK: There is a proverb which says: "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man how to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime." A teacher's main role is no longer to provide students with knowledge, but rather to guide them and give them the tools to acquire it from different sources. It is also to encourage them to be self-confident, independent, and creative learners.

SV: *What qualities do good teachers have?*

NK: Patience, dedication to teaching, effectiveness, friendliness, good classroom-management skills, and a good sense of humor are some of the qualities good teachers have.

SV: *What qualities do good students have?*

NK: Self-discipline, hard work, attentiveness, passion for the subject matter, respect for everybody, and punctuality are among other important qualities that good students have.

SV: *If you weren't teaching English, what would you be doing?*

NK: I might be working as a journalist or a filmmaker.

SV: *What's your favorite word in the English language?*

NK: Peace.

SV: *What's your least favorite word in the English language?*

NK: Despair.

SV: *What word or phrase do you overuse?*

NK: Great!

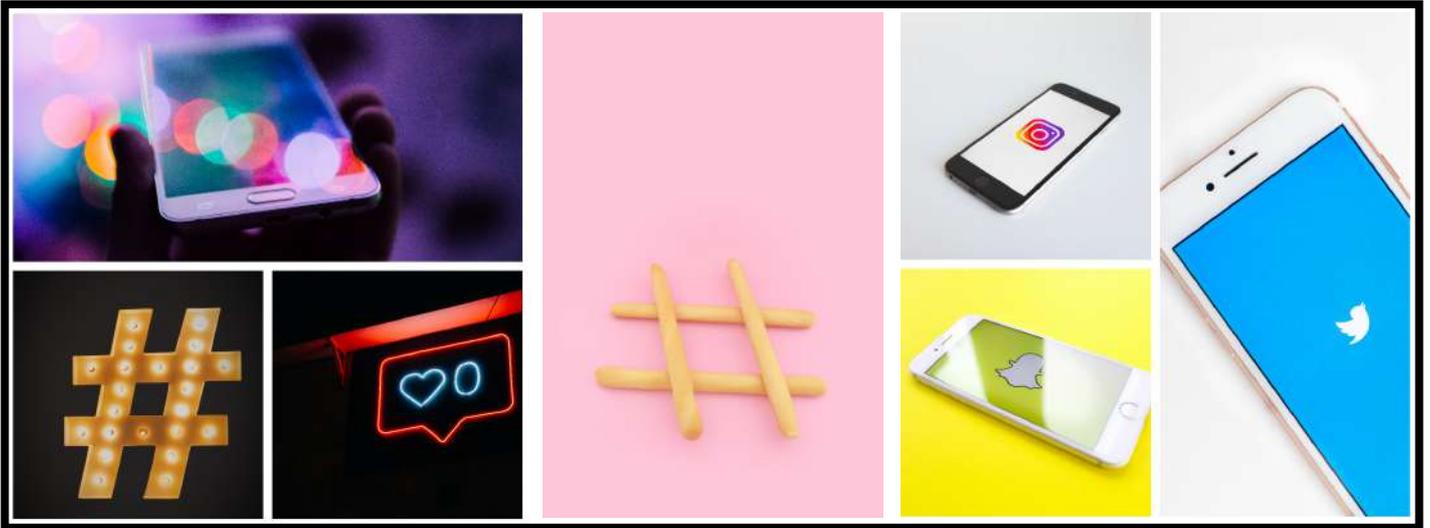
SV: *What is your motto?*

NK: "Compliment people. Magnify their strengths, not their weaknesses." Compliments and appreciation are what all people need to keep motivated and inspired to do better than what they are doing now. So let us compliment people in general, and students in particular, and let us make our compliments sincere, genuine, and heartfelt.

**THE ALC STUDENT VOICE
WANTS YOU**



**TO SUBMIT YOUR
STORIES, ESSAYS,
POETRY & PHOTOS !!!**



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A Guide to Social Networking

Anas Bekkai

Advanced 3

WHAT IS IT?

Social networking is a term for the recent profusion of websites that create online communities around shared interests and allow users to share information with each other, from photos to favorite books to the minutiae of what they're thinking, feeling, or doing.

WHY DO PEOPLE JOIN?

People join social networks for many reasons. Students may use such sites to stay in touch and exchange course materials that were photographed in class earlier that day, whereas others juggle the many demands of their social lives online. One of the main reasons online social networking has caught on is how easy it is to make new connections. As with all new and trendy products, many companies have made huge profits from social networking.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST SOCIAL NETWORKS?

Facebook

Founded in 2004 and originally only for students from Harvard University in the U.S., this site soon reached the point where over a million people per week were signing up. In 2010, it became the most popular social networking site in Morocco.

Twitter

A site that enables you to send short messages known as the "tweets" of 280 characters or fewer to other members of the site that choose to "follow" you. The Twitter app can be downloaded to your phone so you can keep your devoted fans regularly updated about every detail of your life.

Instagram

A free mobile photo-sharing web site and app that was first offered in October 2010, it now has 1 billion active users every month. Instagram can be downloaded through major app stores.

Snapchat

Three Stanford students created the original version of the image-messaging app, which they named "Picaboo" for their product design class. What made Picaboo special was that the app deleted photos soon after they were viewed. The creators' classmates didn't like the idea of temporary photos, but Snapchat's 150 million daily users worldwide now enjoy the interaction.

My First Phone



left photo by rawpixel via Unsplash
right photo by Paul Hanaoka via Unsplash



Ghita Sakout
Intermediate 6

In my family, it's a tradition to give a gift that symbolizes adult life and new responsibilities to a child on their 13th birthday. When I turned thirteen, my parents gave me my first cell phone. It was just a little phone, but for me it was a

new stage of life that changed me. The phone was just a symbol whose real meaning was that I was responsible enough to manage my own life and to deal with new responsibilities.

Personally, the rite of receiving the phone changed my life a lot. With this phone, I was able to call my friends, chat with them online, and do research for

school. I felt more responsible and mature. Before getting the phone, I was dependent on my parents. I had to ask them to use the computer to do my research and use their cell phones to call my friends. But with my own phone, I started counting on myself to deal with social life and my studies. And I also started calling my parents when I had problems at school or with my friends.

The rite of passage of getting one's first cell phone is really important in a child's life. I think it should be the same in all families.

Congratulations to the Spring 2019 ALC-Fes Merit Scholars

Every ALC-Fes Merit Scholar receives free tuition for one term due to their outstanding academic performance.

Beginning 2
Beginning 3
Beginning 4
Beginning 5
Beginning 6

Souâd Zalghi
Chadia Sghir
Fatima Bouderssa
Meryem Tahri Joutei
Houssine Tahiri

Intermediate 1
Intermediate 2
Intermediate 3
Intermediate 4
Intermediate 5
Intermediate 6

Adnane Benmansour
Safae Lagrioui
Douae Oumous
Sawssane Abzouzi
Oussama Labrahmi
Sarah Benslimane

Advanced 1
Advanced 2
Advanced 3
Advanced 5

Elyas El Khaldi
Yassine Jebbouri
Ghita Amrani
Israe El Mizhar