

**P = Pasha      S = Samuel      Sa = Sarah      R = Richard      F = Fay**  
**G = Geraldine      J = Josephine      Ja = Jasmin**

**P:** Hi. I have too many friends to stay in touch by phone, so I use a lot of social networking sites instead. Today I'm finding out how people feel about modern communication. How do you like to stay in touch with your friends?

**S:** The main way that I keep in contact with my friends is via email, um, and I also use mobile phone.

**Sa:** I like face-to-face contact best, so that's always my preference, but otherwise I speak on the phone, write letters, send emails.

**R:** I think it's really important to stay in touch with friends, so, I've got a really close group of friends that we have dinner once a month. We do a kind of 'round robin', you know, we each take turns to cook for each other. So, we do that regularly.

**F:** I keep in contact with my friends via email.

**G:** Well, I used to use an awful lot of postcards and letters, but of course that's now email.

**J:** Email, I still write letters, send text messages, and phone calls.

**Ja:** My phone. My phone is my lifeline. Use it for everything. I hate computers.

**P:** Has modern technology helped us to communicate better?

**Sa:** No. I think we think we can communicate better but I think it just masks our fear of communicating in an honest and open way.

**S:** We're able to make contact with someone via mobile phone instantaneously.

**R:** It's given us more options. I'm a bit of a technophobe though, erm, I don't use social networking sites, I haven't got on the whole, kind of, Twitter bandwagon: so I know that that's there for me to use if I wanted to, but I tend not to bother.

- G:** In theory, it should be better, but in practice, sometimes you just have to speak to somebody on the phone.
- J:** It has, if it comes to just communication like remote communication, it has helped greatly. But on the flipside, I think it hasn't because it's reduced a lot of physical contact, face-to-face contact and I think that a lot of people still feel isolated even though we communicate a lot more than ever before.
- Ja:** No. I think it's probably made it a lot worse as people don't talk face-to-face as much and they just rely on 'text speak' and things and points don't get put across as well if you're not speaking face-to-face.
- P:** What kinds of problems can modern communication cause?
- F:** I think modern communication can cause a lot of different problems. A common one would be to email the wrong person, I think. I've done that a few times myself.
- Ja:** Emails. I tend to, between my teachers: I always write the wrong things and don't send the right work and send all the wrong stuff to all the wrong people and get all my contact lists wrong.
- R:** It's so much easier to be misunderstood, you know, if you're just writing an email, for example.
- Sa:** When I was working, I remember sending a really important email to the Chair of Governors at the school where I worked and I was typing quickly at the end and I was signing it my name, which is Sarah, and I typed Satan by mistake and sent it.