

Vocabulary

sign of the times

Meaning: Something that reflects the current trends, behaviors, or culture of a particular era.

Examples:

1. Social media obsession is a **sign of the times** in today's world.
2. Working remotely is definitely a **sign of the times** brought about by modern technology.

dunno

Meaning: Informal way of saying "I don't know."

Examples:

1. **Dunno** if I'll go to the party; I haven't decided yet.
2. She asked me where the keys were, but I just said, **dunno**.

went viral

Meaning: Spread quickly and widely online, gaining a lot of attention.

Examples:

1. The funny cat video **went viral** and was shared millions of times.
2. Her dance clip **went viral**, making her an overnight internet star.

stupid

Meaning: Silly or not intelligent; lacking good judgment.

Examples:

1. It's **stupid** to drive without wearing a seatbelt.
2. The prank seemed funny online but looked **stupid** in real life.

online image

Meaning: The way someone or something appears or is presented on the internet.

Examples:

1. Influencers spend hours editing their **online image** to look perfect.
2. Your **online image** can impact your job opportunities.

in-person image

Meaning: The way someone appears or is perceived in real life.

Examples:

1. His **in-person image** is much different from his confident online persona.
2. She's working on improving her **in-person image** for networking events.

place weight on

Meaning: To put priority or importance on something

Examples:

1. Schools **place** too much **weight on** grades to determine success.
2. Hospitals **place** a lot of **weight on** survival rates of patients.

Vocabulary Quiz

Complete the sentences with the vocabulary above.
sign of the times • dunno • went viral
stupid • image • in-person • weight

1. I still ___ what I will do.
2. My brother always looks ___ in that outfit.
3. The funny dog video ___.
4. Phone addiction is a ___.
5. In class, a teacher should have a professional ___ image
6. Teens are obsessed with their ___ image.
7. Airlines place a lot of ___ on flights being on time.

Olivia / USA 

What is something that is a sign of the times?

Hi, I'm Olivia. I'm originally from Washington DC and right now I live in London. And my question is, what is something that is a *sign of the times*?

For me, it's the video and the whole trend, tube girl. I *dunno* if you guys have seen it, but basically it's this girl who's recording herself on the tube dancing and singing, and there's a bunch of wind blowing in her face, and the dance is quite brave. It's not something I would want to do in public. And everybody in the background's watching her. And of course it *went viral* because of how shocking it was. And then because of that, she got lots of work and now there's all these videos you see of her in public having a phone and all these different angles and it looks really, really, really cool on the video camera, but it looks really *stupid* when you watch it live in public.

And you see her doing this around a bunch of stars at really important events, at fashion shows and seeing how stupid she looked in real life. But how cool the videos looked on her phone made me think of, wow, it really shows, it's a sign of the times that how you look online is now so much more important than how you look on real life because people *place so much weight on* your online presence. And that's something that's changed only recently. It was never like this before, that people care more about their *online image* than their *in-person image*. So, that's what I think is a sign of the times.

Quiz

Answer the following questions about the interview.

1) What does she talk about?

- a) A Youtuber
- b) Tube dancing**

2) What does she say about the woman?

- a) She is brave.**
- b) She is beautiful.

3) What is more important for the dancer?

- a) Her online image**
- b) Her in-person image

What is the correct word? Listen to the audio to hear the answer!

Hi, I'm Olivia. I'm originally from Washington DC and right now I **lovelive** in London. And my question is, what is something that is a sign **atof** the times?

For me, it's the video and the **holewhole** trend, tube girl. I **dunno** if you guys have **seensaw** it, but basically it's this girl who's **recordsrecording** herself on the tube dancing and singing, and there's a **brunchbunch** of wind blowing in her face, and the dance is **quietquite** brave. It's not something I would want to do **inon** public. And everybody in the background's watching **herthem**. And of course it went viral because of **howwhat** shocking it was. And then because of that, she got lots of **worrywork** and now there's all these videos you **seeseen** of her in public having a phone and all these different **angelsangles** and it looks really, really, really **coldcool** on the video camera, but it **looklooks** really stupid when you watch it **lovelive** in public.

And you see her doing this around a **batchbunch** of stars at really important events, at fashion **showshow** and seeing how stupid she looked in real **livelife**. But how cool the videos looked on her phone **mademake** me think of, wow, it really shows, it's a **singsign** of the times that how you look online is now so **manymuch** more important than how you look on **realrare** life because people place so much **waitweight** on your online presence. And that's something that's changed only **recentrecently**. It was never like this before, that people **carecure** more about their online **imageimagine** than their in-person image. So, that's what I **thinkthought** is a sign of the **timetimes**.