

## Communicating using technology: What do you need to consider?

Communicating using technology is not the same as when you are talking to someone. There are a few things to consider, to make sure that you aren't misunderstood. Email doesn't laugh to tell your friend you are joking. Text messages don't cry to tell your friend you are sad. Technology does not convey emotion. While technology is great and provides us with many alternatives to the spoken word, it's not appropriate for all situations. For example, if you are in a fight with a friend, it is better to talk it through with them rather than fight via text or email. As you work through this worksheet, think about the reasons why you wouldn't want to resolve a fight via text and in which situations you might choose to talk to someone rather than email them.

- A. On the left are a few examples of ways that you may communicate with your friends (other than talking to them). If you would like to add another way to communicate that is not listed please add in the line below. On the right please provide an example of something that you might commonly say to your friend on this device.

Device	Statement
Email	
Text Message	
Facebook / MySpace	
(Other)	

- B. Intonation is what tells us how to interpret what someone says.

Please look up and provide the definition for Intonation.

Please look up and provide the definition for Sarcasm.

- C. Not all statements are well conveyed or received via email, text, etc. because someone might not be able to sense sarcasm or joking in your email the way that they can with your voice. Have

you ever received a text or an email that you thought was mean but your friend was really joking or being sarcastic?

*Please give 3 examples of things that might be misunderstood when you read them in a text.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*What was the result of the misunderstanding?*

*How could it have been avoided?*

*Now how can you modify the above statements to show intonation?*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## **Pre-work for Fact vs. Fiction on the web**

Look up the definition of an Urban Legend

What is the difference between an Urban Legend and a lie?

Have you ever received a text message or email that sounds like an Urban legend? Please give an example.

How might you go about determining if it is true or not?

Here are a few websites that show examples of Urban Legends. Take a look and think about the different ways that they go about finding out if something is "Truth or Fiction."

<http://www.snopes.com>

<http://www.truthorfiction.com/>

Each of these websites does investigation to determine if a story is true or not. Please spend a little time on these websites and list out 3 ways that they determine if a story is fact or fiction.

1.

2.

3.