



# Introduction to Social & Online Media

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Monday, May 18, 2020



## HS Introduction to Social & Online Media

Overall Lesson: **Social Media Current Event**

Sub lesson for Monday, May 18, 2020: TikTok article

### Objective/Learning Target:

Students will be able to understand the concerns over the social media app TikTok.



## Background Information

TikTok is a Chinese video-sharing social networking service owned by ByteDance, a Beijing-based company founded in 2012 by Zhang Yiming. It is used to create short dance, lip-sync, comedy and talent videos. ByteDance first launched Douyin for the China market in September 2016.

[Wikipedia](#)



## Warm Up/Bellringer

Do you have the TikTok app installed on your cell phone?

Do you use the TikTok app?

Are you worried about your private information being shared when you use the TikTok app?



## Lesson/Activity #1

1. Read this short [article](#) about the security concerns over TikTok.



## Lesson/Activity #2

1. What is the source and date of this article? Do you think this source is trustworthy and reliable as a source of information? Why or why not?
2. What is the primary security concern from the DoD (Department of Defense)?
3. What did the report from Check Point Research reveal?
4. What is Check Point?
5. What is the recommendation of the DoD (Department of Defense)?



## Lesson/Activity #2 ANSWERS

1. What is the source and date of this article? Do you think this source is trustworthy and reliable as a source of information? Why or why not? **The source is inc.com from January 9, 2020, and the author is Jason Aten, a tech columnist. <opinions will vary> Refer to links in the Additional Resources slide for more information about inc.com.**
2. What is the primary security concern from the DoD (Department of Defense)? **They are concerned with "the app's popularity with Western users including armed forces personnel, and its ability to convey location, image and biometric data to its Chinese parent company, which is legally unable to refuse to share data to the Chinese government".**

## Lesson/Activity #2 ANSWERS

3. What did the report from Check Point Research reveal? The TikTok app could allow attackers to compromise accounts, obtain content, delete videos, and reveal personal information saved on the account.
4. What is Check Point? Check Point is a security research firm that has discovered vulnerabilities in other apps we use on a daily basis, and has a track record of working with developers to make them aware of issues to be fixed.
5. What is the recommendation of the DoD (Department of Defense)? The Defense Department is urging its personnel not to install TikTok, or, to at least be sure they are using the most current version, which fixes the patches revealed by the Check Point release.





## Lesson/Activity #3

Respond to this prompt in a well-written paragraph of 5+ sentences.

The information we share on social media is increasingly at risk of being used in ways we might not intend. Instagram and Facebook users have experienced multiple breaches of their data. Does this make you cautious or fearful about using social media apps? Why or why not?



## Additional Resources

- [Check Point company overview](#)
- [Media Bias](#) report over Inc.com
- ARTICLE from May 1, 2020: [Can coronavirus – and a new lobbyist – help TikTok repair its reputation in Washington?](#)