

Exercise #4

Creating and Getting Started with a Free Blog

In this exercise you will learn to create a blog for communication with your teen patrons or teen council.

1. To create your Blog, go the website www.blogger.com and click on the arrow that says **Create Your Blog Now**
 - . You will be asked to create an account. Fill in the appropriate information and click **Continue**.
 - . Enter the name of your blog in the **Blog Title** box.
 - . Create a URL for your blog. It is helpful to use the name of your blog in your URL to make it easier to remember.
 - . Enter the verification word in the appropriate box.
 - . Click **Continue**.
 - . Choose a template by clicking on the circle under the desired style. Then scroll down and click on **Continue**.
 - A message, “Your blog has been created” will appear to let you know you are done.
2. To start posting to your BLOG:
 - . Click on **Start Posting**.
 - . Choose a title for your post. This can be the date or any topic title you wish. This is YOUR blog.
 - . When done typing your blog entry, click **POST**.
 - A message will appear that tells you your post is successful.
3. To view your first posting, click on **View Blog** at the bottom of the screen. Your blog will open in a new window.
4. Go back to the previous window where you created your blog. Notice the tabs at the top of the page where you can choose a new template, change your settings, or view your blog.
5. In the future:
 - . To add posts or change settings, go to www.blogger.com and log in.
 - . To view your blog, go to the URL you created in step 1c.
6. To delete your blog:
 - . Go to the dashboard.
 - . Click on the Settings tab.
 - . Scroll down to the bottom of the page. You will see the question, “Do you want to delete this blog? Click on **Delete this Blog**.

Other free blog websites include Xanga.com, which is popular with the teens, and diaryland.com

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Bonus Exercise: Instant Messaging

1. Go to messenger.yahoo.com and click on **Get It Now**.
 - . A new window will open. When prompted to save or open, click **Open**.
 - . A new window will open to choose products to install. Remove the checks in that window and click **Next**.
 - . Continue clicking **Next** until the Install Complete window opens. Click **Finish**.
2. In the IM box, click **Get a Yahoo ID#**. Fill out the registration information.
3. Get the ID# of the people sitting next to you.
4. To enter your friend or neighbor into your buddy list:
 - . Click on **the icon** that looks like a smiley face with a plus symbol.
 - . Type in your neighbor's contact name.
 - . Click **Next** on the next screen.
 - . Click **Finish**. The ID should appear in your buddy list.
5. To send a message:
 - . Click on the **name of the buddy** you wish to send a message to.
 - . A dialog box will appear. Write something in the open conversation box and press **<Enter>**.
6. You will see your dialog appear on the screen. Continue practicing. Try using some of the IM vocabulary words from the Technology Cheat Sheet in your packet.