
Guide to Social Networks for Language Learning

Follow the 28 Day Social Media Challenge at www.fluentlanguage.co.uk/social-media-language-learning

The following list of social networks is not exhaustive - there are hundreds of apps and websites you can use for connecting with other language learners. These are, however, the most common and have been thoroughly tested. Enjoy the tips, and come meet me on your favourite social network.

	Why It's Great	Downsides	Score	Great Links
Twitter	<p>The community is active and enormous.</p> <p>Hashtags are an easy way to find more folks who talk about the same thing. You can save these as a "saved search" in many apps.</p> <p>The language learning kick is in Twitter lists, which should be at the top of your language learning activities. This system is a simple way to keep your newsfeed clean and focused on a target language.</p>	<p>No video and limited visual, so it's less creative. But Twitter live video is coming!</p>	5/5	<p>Tweetbot</p> <p>Tweetdeck</p> <p>Hashtagify</p> <p>Twitter List Tutorial</p>
Pinterest	<p>This is the place for infographics, how-to articles and anything your teacher might have up their sleeve. If you</p> <p>It's very visual so you can quickly get the hang of things and have a fun learning environment.</p> <p>Make sure you review all those things you pin, otherwise they're less useful.</p>	<p>You won't find too many opportunities to share your own learning progress.</p>	4/5	<p>Fluent Language Boards</p>

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Instagram	<p>The language learning community on Instagram is great, and you can connect with the right posts and people through hashtags. Inspiring posts all round.</p> <p>You can also review your Likes every week to get vocab practice.</p>	Don't follow too many people and review your newsfeed on a regular basis to keep focused.	4/5	Wordswag App
Reddit	<p>Reddit is one of the biggest forums on the whole internet. There is a super active forum for all language learners.</p> <p>Reddit also offers language-specific subreddits where you can practice, ask questions and get feedback. Currently, the list covers over 80 languages.</p>	Users can be opinionated so don't let yourself be drawn into long debates about what's the best/worst technique.	4/5	Language Learning Forum on Reddit
YouTube	<p>YouTube is an incredible resource for language learners. You can find anything you want on there, such as songs, vlogs, documentaries, movies and complete language lessons. Every language learner has used YouTube at some point, and they've done so for good reason.</p> <p>YouTube is a social network in the sense that it encourages commenting and allows users to upload their own videos.</p>	<p>But there are also problems with moderation, and I'm marking it down just slightly because there's so much more focus on input instead of output.</p> <p>If you want to make videos where you practice your target language, you can do this more easily on Instagram or Snapchat.</p>	4/5	Fluent Language Channel Lindsay Does Languages Channel Easy Languages Channel Language Transfer Channel
Tumblr	<p>This one is fantastic for language input and you'll be able to find the craziest stuff. Whole vocabulary lists, memes, corrections, it's all somewhere on Tumblr.</p> <p>The community also encourages writing practice.</p>	Tumblr is chaotic on the surface so that you can easily get distracted from your mission. Make a language learning account.	3/5	Fluent Guide to Tumblr
Snapchat	Lots of fun, creative, low-pressure and busy social network. Dare yourself to share anything, it will be gone in 24 hours!	It can be hard to find new users with your interests in the app, so use Ghostcodes. I'm missing the sense of community that I got from other social networks.	3/5	Ghostcodes User Directory

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Facebook	<p>Facebook is our everyday companion, it's on so many phones, full of pictures and community. There are millions of groups for anything, and there is one out there for your target language. Another great thing about Facebook is its events feature, and the way it talks to Instagram.</p> <p>Use the "Save Post" feature and switch the user language to your target language.</p>	Simply too distracting to be useful in the long run. You could focus it more by creating a separate profile.	3/5	Fluent Language Learners Group

At a Glance

	Input	Output	Tips	Community
Twitter	++	+	+	-
Instagram	++	++	+	++
Snapchat	+	++	-	-
Facebook	+	+	+	++
Tumblr	++	+	+	+
Pinterest	++	-	++	+
Reddit	+	+	++	++

Want more tips and strategy?

Come and join our Facebook group! **Search for Fluent Language Learners** and join us to share your goals, tricks and trackers.

If you want to take your social media skills one step further, connect with me and check out my language learning journey. Sign up to my newsletter at www.fluentlanguage.co.uk to get more guides like this one, plus book notes for the fantastic book “Becoming Fluent”.

