

Smart profiles

It's now time to market yourself! So let's learn all the tricks to create a really impressive personal profile, shall we? You never know, one day you might become a star too!



LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 6

Learning Object 3: I want to be a star

PRIOR LEARNING:

Stage 2

Module 1, Work Sheet 4: *Let's get personal*

Module 2, Work Sheet 6: *Making new friends*



WARNING!

Never provide information such as your date of birth, address or phone numbers to an online site. Beware of identity theft!

How to write a personal profile

1

Many online sites will ask you to complete a personal profile. Personal profiles are an excellent way to distil information about yourself into a digestible and interesting format.

A profile is like a scrapbook of your life in words. But writing one can be a bit tricky. You want to make yourself look good, but at the same time you don't want to come across as being a show-off.

Writing a personal profile can also be fun. However, while it is fun, you need to be extremely careful about the information you write. Keep in mind how secure your profile will be and who, ultimately, is going to be able to see it.

Specifically for this profile example, Peter and Anna are joining a secure intranet school library site. It is for a weekly book club with about 30 student members. The librarian is the administrator of the site and is responsible for ensuring that everyone contributes positively with their profiles and content. She has even made a 'review' page so students can contribute their opinions about the books they've read.

The librarian has asked students to supply the following information*:

1. Simple background information (their name and nationality).
2. A brief description of their education (current year level, favourite subject/s, any special achievements or awards).
3. Personal skills and talents (for example, in music, art, sports and drama).
4. Likes and dislikes (for example, books, authors, entertainment, sport and food).
5. Hobbies and any special events (for example, travel).
6. Goals, dreams, and plans for the future.
7. Heroes and inspiration (for example, people you admire, heroes, friends, or family members).

* Only the member's name is compulsory. All other information is supplied voluntarily.

2

Some useful tips



Talking with friends online can be great! You can keep in touch with friends and family who travel, or live in other countries. But, there are some things you need to be careful about. Here are my 'safe-profiling' tips.

When writing a personal profile, consider the following:

1. **Safety first!** Only enter limited, basic information online. The site may say it is secure, but you can never be too careful. Never get tricked into giving away personal information to anyone. Be careful with your password, and never share your username or password.
2. **Friends forever:** Make sure the friends you know and trust are the only ones who can see your profile information and photographs. If there is a friend who is making negative remarks about you online, 'unfriend' them straight away. Then tell your parents or teachers about the criticism.
3. **Picture me:** Be careful with the photos you're uploading and how you tag them. Make sure any photos and albums you create can only be seen by those people you specifically allow.
4. **The art of adjectives:** Paint a broad picture of who you are, without telling your entire life story or going into specific details. Use adjectives and other descriptive words and phrases to describe yourself and have a bit of fun.
5. **The real you:** Never say you are actually someone else or use someone else's photograph as your own, because this is against the law.
6. **A general appreciation:** List your favourite artists or bands and talk about the sports you enjoy. List your hobbies, but never list places you visit or teams you are involved with. Never give information that a stranger can use to find you.
7. **A positive approach:** Be positive about yourself, your skills and your talents, and never criticise others.
8. **Short and sweet:** Say what you mean in short sentences. See how witty you can be and still spell correctly!

3

Privacy and celebrities

Although we consider information, such as our residential address, highly confidential in Australia, this is not the case in Indonesia where corresponding with pen pals is common.

Indonesian celebrities will always include either their personal or agency addresses with their profiles, so that their devotees will know where to send fan mail. Privacy is respected in Indonesia, so celebrities are not bothered or harassed by fans or paparazzi turning up on their doorstep for autographs or photos. Requests such as these can be made through fan mail or agencies.

All teenage magazines also have a section where the readers can provide their profiles (and addresses) so that other readers can get in contact with them.

4

Purpose and audience

You need to change or adapt the content of your profile, depending on its purpose and audience.

For example, if you are applying for a part-time job in a sports store, your profile would include details about the sports you play and know. If you are applying for an excellence program, your profile would focus on your academic achievements and ambitions for the future.

Exercise 1

Read the following extracts from Learning Object 3, *I want to be a star*, where Ardi, Nina, Peter, Tono and Ella express their interest in taking on different roles in Anna's production of *Kelelawar 4*.

- i. *Namaku Ardi. Aku tidak begitu tinggi, tapi aku ingin main jadi Kelelawar. Kelelawar keren. Aku suka berakting dan bisa bermain gitar.*
- ii. *Namaku Nina. Aku ingin main jadi Nanool. Dia hebat sekali. Aku bisa menyanyi. Aku bersuara lembut dan bisa menghafal dialog.*
- iii. *Namaku Peter Smart. Aku bisa menyanyi, tapi aku tidak mau jadi Marat. Aku tidak bisa menghafal dialog. Aku suka sekali musik dalam film Kelelawar IV.*
- iv. *Namaku Tono. Aku tidak bisa berakting, tapi aku suka sekali merancang. Pentas dan kostum dalam film Kelelawar IV hebat sekali.*
- v. *Namaku Ella. Aku ingin main jadi Nanool. Aku bersuara keras. Aku bisa menyanyi dan berdansa.*

Now answer the following questions in **English**:

1.1 Which of these personal descriptions would you consider to be the best if you were the talent scout?

Provide reasons for your answer.

1.2 In your opinion, which of the personal descriptions could have been improved?

Provide reasons for your answer.

Hint! There could be more than one.

1.3 In Indonesian, rewrite the description/s that you think could be improved.

Exercise 2

The Languages Department of SMP Harapan Bangsa is looking for candidates for acting and non-acting roles in some short films that are going to be made by students at the end of the semester.

The Head of Department has given students the opportunity to upload their personal profiles on the school's intranet website so that the selection process can take place in a timely and efficient manner. This website is not available to the general public.

Both Peter and Anna are interested in uploading their profiles to be considered for a role of some sort.

In Indonesian, write their personal profiles bearing in mind purpose, audience and the tips you have learnt.

2.1 Peter:

Nama: _____

Umur: _____

Tanggal: _____

Jenis kelamin: _____

Kewarganegaraan: _____

Kelas: _____

Sekolah: _____

Subyek favorit: _____

Ketrampilan dan bakat: _____

Hobi: _____

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

Klub: _____

Rencana masa depan: _____

Alamat: _____

Telepon: _____

Email: _____

2.2 Anna:

Nama: _____

Umur: _____

Tanggal: _____

Jenis kelamin: _____

Kewarganegaraan: _____

Kelas: _____

Sekolah: _____

Subyek favorit: _____

Ketrampilan dan bakat: _____

Hobi: _____

Klub: _____

Rencana masa depan: _____

Alamat: _____

Telepon: _____

Email: _____

Exercise 3

Now it is your turn!

Imagine you are an exchange student at SMP Harapan Bangsa, just like Peter and Anna. You, too, would like to be considered by the Language Department to act in their short films.

So come on, write a personal profile that will get you noticed!

Nama: _____

Umur: _____

Tanggal: _____

Jenis kelamin: _____

Kewarganegaraan: _____

Kelas: _____

Sekolah: _____

Subyek favorit: _____

Ketrampilan dan bakat: _____

Hobi: _____

Klub: _____

Rencana masa depan: _____

Alamat: _____

Telepon: _____

Email: _____