



# Trolls on the Internet

Don't let a troll get to you  
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**H**ave you ever been upset  
(現在完成式)你曾經... (adj)不爽的  
by a negative statement  
(adj)負面的 (n)評論  
someone has posted online  
(v)刊登

about you or one of your posts?

Then you're not alone. This situation (n)貼文 05

is so common that anyone who spends

much time on social media has probably

experienced their fair share. In 2021,

about 41 percent of American adults had

experienced some form of online harassment, 10

and it's not decreasing. A person who offends,

causes conflict or attacks people in this manner

on purpose is known as an internet troll.

(片)故意地 V.被以...身分被知道 (n)酸民

Some say people engage in this kind of activity

to cause mischief and bother people while 15

getting attention. Additionally, people online don't

need to use their real identities, so they don't

face any consequences.

V.面對 (n)後果

## Talk About It

- Have you ever had a troll harass you online?  
What did you do?  
- Yes, and I ...  
- No, I haven't, but if someone does, I plan to ...
- Why do people become online trolls?  
- I think it's because ...

## Key Points

- Online trolls like to cause mischief because there are no consequences for their behavior.
- Online trolls are encouraged when they get a reaction to something they have posted.



Researchers from Cornell University suggest

that both a person's emotional state and the

context of a conversation can cause them to act

like a troll. Anyone who wakes up on the wrong

side of the bed or is having a bad day can lash

out. And if they receive a lot of likes for their

comments, they're likely to continue the behavior.

(n)評論 S V.可能去... (n)讚 (n)行為

## Usage Tip

**Anyone who vs. Whoever** 本句的 Anyone who 可替換為 Whoever，表「任何...的人」。由於 anyone 為代名詞，所以替換成的 whoever 子句屬名詞子句，在句子中可作主詞（如本句）或受詞（如最後例句）用。不過，whoever 亦可引導副詞子句，表「無論是誰」，如 Whoever you meet, you'll learn something new from them. 此時 whoever 同 no matter who，不能以 anyone who 替換。例句：The arrogant boy looks down on anyone who (= whoever) is inferior to himself.



Platforms that trolls target include chatrooms,  
 YouTube, forums or anywhere people can freely  
post their thoughts and opinions. So how do you  
know if you are a victim? Typically, trolls attack  
something that you have said you support or  
are in favor of. They either insult you directly  
or criticize a post's topic. And they don't stop,  
especially if they get an emotional reaction  
as that is what they are hoping for. You can  
also spot a troll because they make ridiculous  
statements about the topic being discussed,  
hoping to get a reaction. They likely don't believe  
what they're saying, but their goal is to get you to  
 believe that they do and react.

So, what should you do? Most experts say  
 to ignore them. Don't get involved in an online  
 discussion with one because that is exactly what  
they want. If the troll becomes offensive, you can  
use the site's "contact us" link or report button to  
report their behavior to the administrator. Don't let  
 trolls have the last word!

## Word Bank

**decrease** (v) [dɪˈkriːs] 下降；減少

Traffic in the area **decreased** after they built the new highway.

**mischief** (n) [ˈmɪʃɪf] 惡作劇；傷害

Sandra asked the boys to leave the café since they started causing **mischief**.

**emotional** (adj) [ɪˈmoʊʃənəl] 情緒的，情感的

Ann found it difficult to discuss the **emotional** challenges she faced when she lost her job.

**behavior** (n) [bɪˈheɪvjə] 行為

Little Bobby got a gold star for good **behavior** during class.

**typically** (adv) [ˈtɪpɪkli] 通常

Summer in this area is **typically** hot and dry.

**insult** (v) [ɪnˈsʌlt] 侮辱

After Darrell **insulted** Judy's choice of clothes, she refused to talk to him.

**reaction** (n) [rɪˈækʃən] 反應

Alice's **reaction** to the surprise party was a mix of shock and joy.

**offensive** (adj) [əˈfensɪv] 冒犯的

Many in class found Bruce's jokes to be **offensive**.

## Word Bank Boost

**typical** (adj) [ˈtɪpɪkəl] 典型的

This kind of bad behavior is **typical** of John.

**typify** (v) [ˈtɪpəˈfaɪ] 為...的典型

The kind of language Joanne uses **typifies** the area of England she is from.

## More Information

**troll** (n) [trɒl] 酸民

**harassment** (n) [həˈræsmənt] 騷擾

**chatroom** (n) [ˈtʃætˌruːm] 聊天室

**forum** (n) [ˈfɔːrəm] 論壇

**administrator** (n) [ædˈmɪnɪˌstreɪtə] 管理員

## Focus on Phrases

**get to (someone or something)** 影響...

**fair share** 理應得到的份額

**on purpose** 故意

**wake up on the wrong side of (the) bed** 起床氣

**lash out** 猛烈抨擊

**hope for** 希望得到

**have the last word** 有最後決定權

## Usage Tip

**either ... or ...** 對等結構 either A or B 意為「不是 A 就是 B」，用於強調會在 A 與 B 兩者之間選擇一個的情況。在此結構中，A 與 B 必須為一致的詞性或句式，如本句中的 insult 和 criticize 即同為動詞。A 與 B 也有可能同為名詞，形容詞，介系詞或從屬子句等。例句：She didn't answer your call either because she was busy or because she fell asleep.

