



Safer  
Internet  
Day 2020 | Tuesday  
11 February

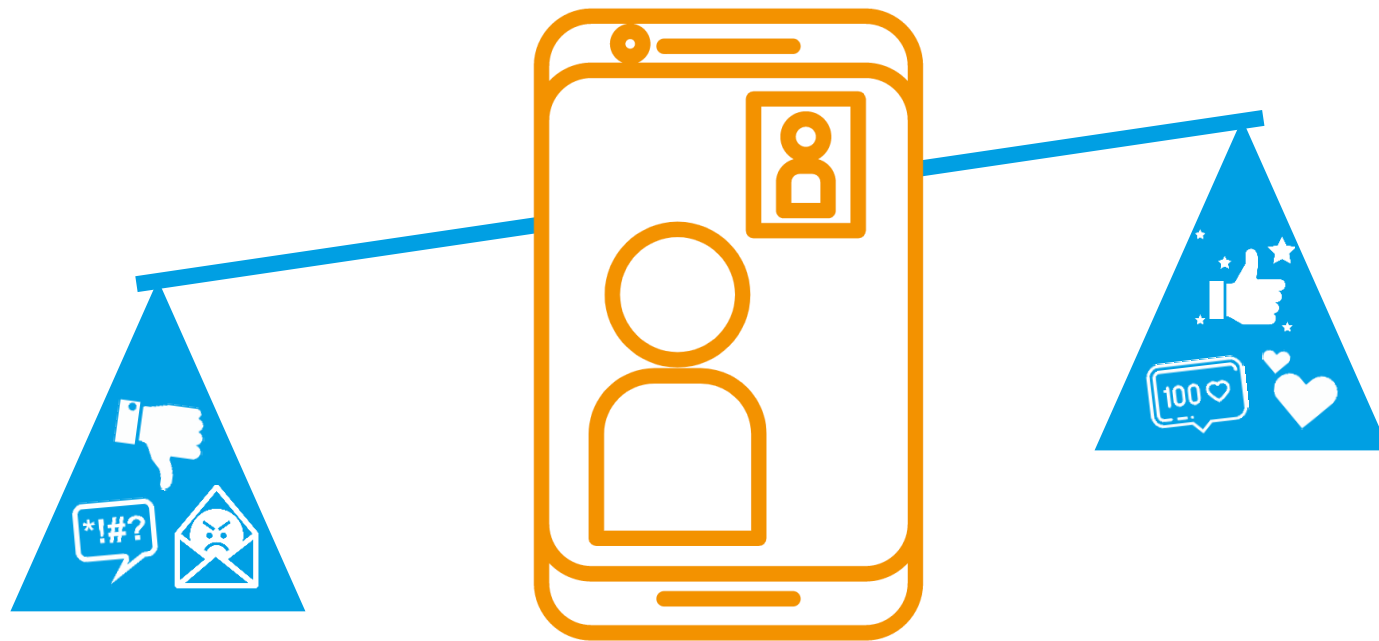
Free  
to be ME

Exploring identity online

Ages 14-18 - Mini presentation 1

## Mini presentation 1

**Are all identities equal online?**



# What is an identity?



From our gender, ethnicity and age to our experiences and behaviour, every aspect of our life can form part of our identity.

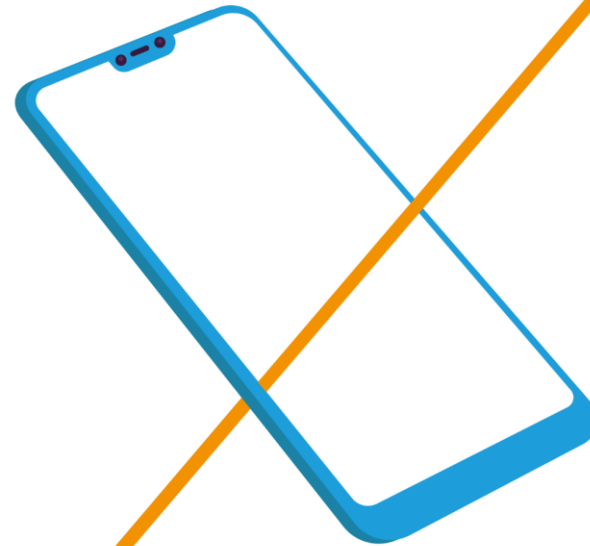
We can have many different identities which come together to form who we are, and we can create, adapt and change our identity when we choose.



How many identity characteristics can you name in one minute?

Which identities do you think are always represented positively online and which are not?

Represented positively online



Represented negatively online

So...

Are all identities equal online?



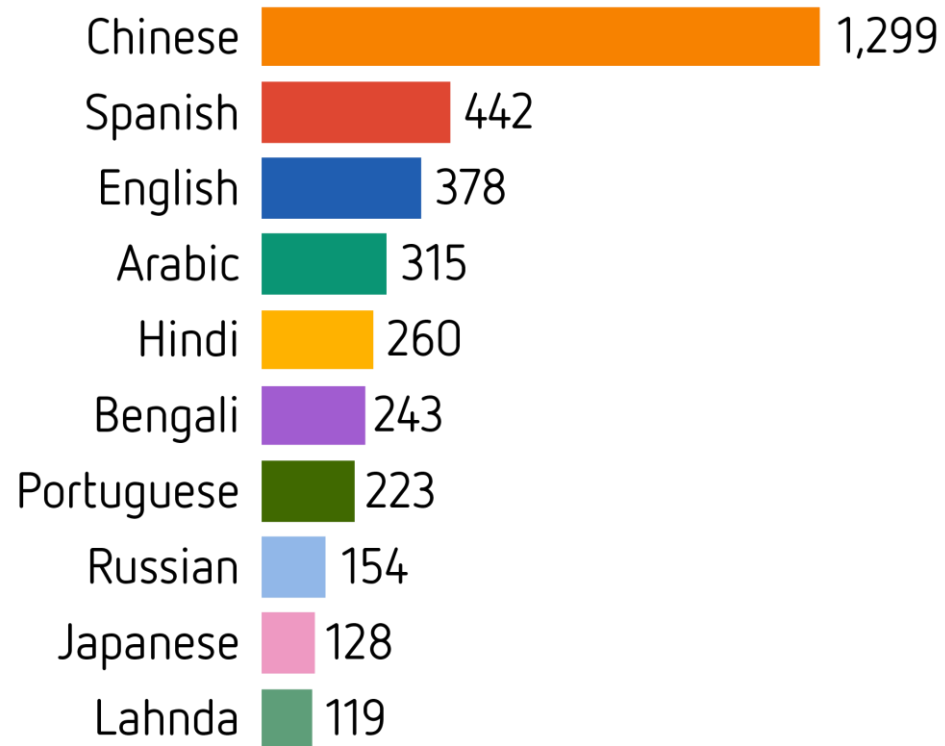


## The online identity quiz

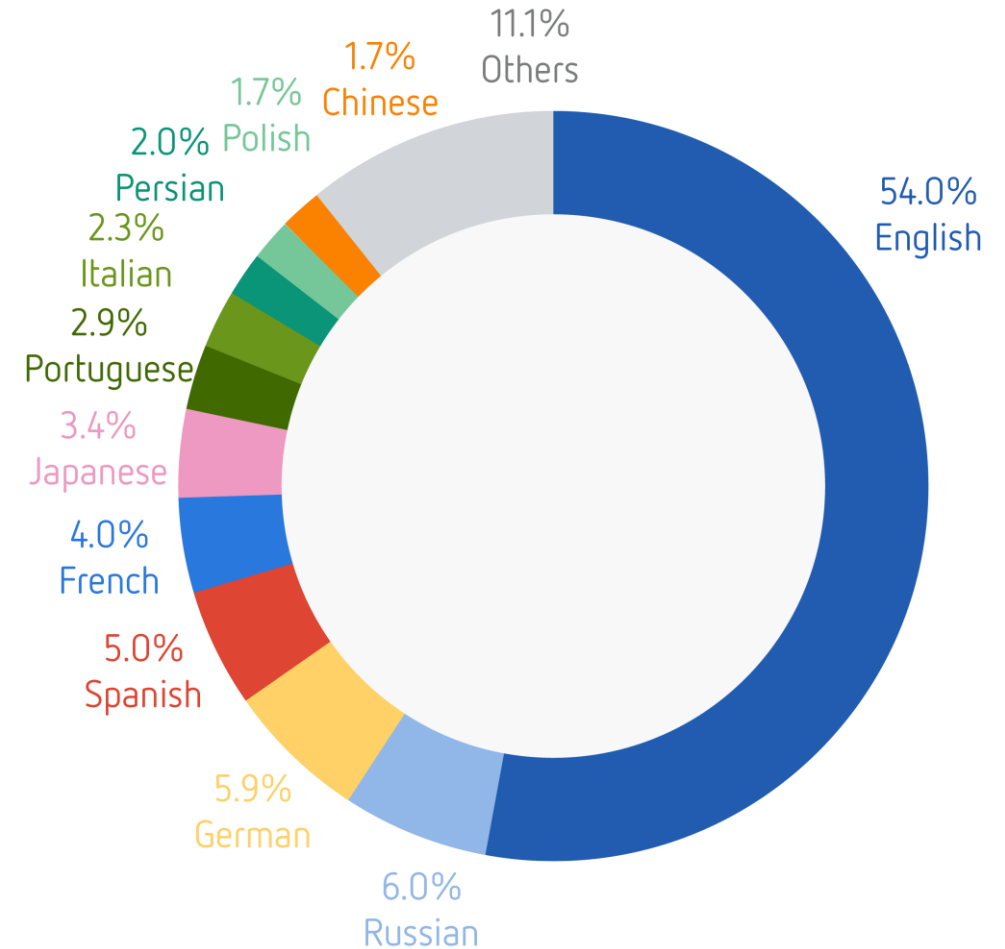
How well do you know  
'equality' and 'diversity' online?

# What is the most common language used online?

Estimated number of first-language speakers worldwide in 2018 (millions)



Percentage of websites using various content languages (Feb 2019)





Does being equal online mean treating everyone the same?

Yes?

No?

No.

Everyone has different needs to be able to access and enjoy things online. Someone who is deaf, for example, would need subtitles when watching a video. Being equal online is all about treating people fairly.

# What does it mean to see diversity online?

- ☐ Seeing only people from a certain background or culture commenting on things which relate to them.
- ☒ True diversity online should mean that we have online spaces where everyone feels welcome, included, represented and fairly treated. Nobody should expect to be excluded from something based on who they are.
- ☐ Making sure that everyone has their own separate space to be themselves online away from others.
- ☐ Not allowing people to discuss things which don't relate directly to them.

Which of these would be considered 'protected characteristics' by the Equality Act 2010 and therefore unlawful to discriminate against?

- Disability
- Age
- Gender reassignment
- Race
- Sex
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Pregnancy or maternity
- Marriage or civil partnership

All 9 of these are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Is it ok to ask someone about a protected characteristic or part of their identity online?

Yes?

No?

It depends?

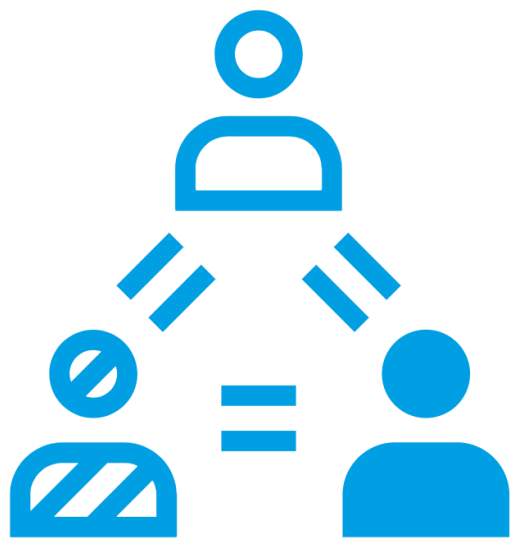
It depends.

Some people are very open online with their identity, sometimes sharing things to educate others. However, not everyone will feel comfortable doing this or discussing personal things about themselves.

## Which of these would be unfair treatment of someone else online?

- ✓ Treating someone less favourably because they have a protected characteristic.
- ✓ Making assumptions about someone based on their protected characteristic.
- ✓ Excluding someone from an online community or group.
- ✓ Blocking someone because they show support for others.
- ✓ Certain groups having an advantage compared to others online.

All of these would be unfair treatment of someone online and may even be unlawful or against a service's terms and conditions if they show prejudice or discrimination based on protected characteristics.



Does society have a problem with how identity is represented online?

#trending...

Dove's new photo project is changing the way women are seen in the media

'Racist' cartoon turns woman black when she is cursed

Artificial Intelligence Has a Problem With Gender and Racial Bias.

Women Are Seen More than Heard in Online Newspapers

'#IAmHere': The people trying to make Facebook a nicer place

Fair and accurate media coverage really could improve the lives of transgender people like me

'Harmful' gender stereotypes in adverts banned

Disabled people must be front and centre on TV – representation matters

- Why does representation matter?
- What impact does proper representation have now and in the future?
- Why does misrepresentation happen online?
- Does it only happen online?

So...

How can we challenge  
misrepresentation online?

Freedom  
Welcome  
Rights  
Represented  
Minorities  
Communities  
Misrepresentation  
Gender  
Values  
Sexuality  
Ethnicity  
Beliefs  
Inclusive  
Understood  
Location  
Under represented



## Top tips for tackling misrepresentation online

- Look out for positive representation or people trying to challenge negative representation and give it a 'like.'
- Make sure you follow a range of accounts to see and hear from others.
- Think about what you share and how it might portray others.
- Report negative comments/ posts.
- Make use of campaign hashtags and graphics to raise awareness and support for others.

A place where  
everybody feels...

Let's make the online world **FREE**



**F** Fairly treated  
**R** Represented  
**E** Equal  
**E** Empowered

SHARE

How will you make  
the online world a  
more equal place?



# Safer Internet Day 2020

**Tuesday**  
11 February

Together for a better internet

[www.saferinternetday.org](http://www.saferinternetday.org)



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