

## Friend or Fake?



### Overview

Students will watch the *NSTeens* video “Friend or Fake?” and complete the accompanying attachment comparing the types of comments that an online friend and an online fake might make. They will also write an e-mail to a classmate warning him or her about meeting offline.



### Materials / Preparation

- Computer lab or computer hooked up to an LCD projector
- Video - “Friend or Fake?”
- Attachment 1



**30 minutes**



### Introduction

Ask students: *Have any of you ever met new people in virtual worlds, chat rooms, or on social networking sites? In the video that we are going to watch, Keyan meets an online friend that he thinks about meeting*

*in person. His friends, Slick and Tad, think that this is a bad idea. While watching, think about who you agree with and why.*



### Activity

Have students complete Attachment 1. In the first section, students will list the types of questions and comments that an online friend or an online fake might make. They may complete this first part on their own or in groups.

#### Example

Online friends say...	Online fakes say...
<i>What's your favorite video game?</i>	<i>What's your home address?</i>
<i>I don't care if you tell your friends.</i>	<i>Let's just keep this between you and me.</i>
<i>I missed you yesterday. I'm glad you're back.</i>	<i>Why won't you tell me? Don't you trust me?</i>
<i>It's OK if you don't want to tell me that.</i>	<i>Do you want to meet in person?</i>

Students will then write an e-mail to a classmate warning him or her about online fakes and the dangers of meeting offline. Let students pick the classmate they want to write to or assign writing pairs.



### Follow-Up

Watch the *Teens Talk Back* video “Meeting Offline,” and have students discuss whether or not they agree with the responses offered by the teens in the video.



In the first column, list some questions and comments that an online friend might say to you.  
In the second column, list some questions and comments that an online fake might say to you.

### Online friends say...

Seven empty speech bubble shapes for writing responses under the 'Online friends say...' header.

### Online fakes say...

Seven empty speech bubble shapes for writing responses under the 'Online fakes say...' header.

Use the lines below to write an e-mail to a classmate about how to spot an online fake.  
Make sure to include the following information in your e-mail:

**How an online fake might try to convince you that they are a friend.**

*Example:*  
An online fake might offer to send you gifts.

**What types of things an online fake might say to you.**

*Example:*  
An online fake might ask you to share personal information, like your cell phone number.

**Why meeting someone you met online in person is a bad idea.**

*Example:*  
You don't know if you can trust someone that you meet online.

Five horizontal lines for writing an email.