

BLACK MIRROR

1st and 2nd ESO
Teacher's Guide





NOTE TO TEACHERS

On our website www.transeduca.com you will find the entire script of the play.

Download it!

You can work on this play with your students before going to the theatre. Enjoy!

BEFORE GOING TO THE THEATRE

1. The show

Black Mirror is a popular science fiction TV series on Netflix that explores how technology can affect our lives—both in good and bad ways. Each episode tells a different story with new characters, set in a future that feels very close to today. The show often focuses on things like social media, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and how people interact with these tools.

The title *Black Mirror* refers to the screens we use every day—like phones, tablets, and TVs—when they are turned off. The show implies that these screens reflect both our best and worst behaviors.

While *Black Mirror* is creative and thought-provoking, it can sometimes be intense, with mature themes. These episodes help us think about the future of technology and encourages us to ask big questions like:

- What happens if we rely too much on technology?

.....

.....

- How does technology shape who we are?

.....

.....





Answer the following questions related to the text:

a) What is Black Mirror and where can you watch it?

It is a science fiction TV series and you can watch it on Netflix.

b) What kind of future does Black Mirror show?

It shows a future that feels very close to today and explores how technology affects our lives.

c) What does the title Black Mirror refer to?

It refers to screens like phones or TVs when they are turned off.

2. Speaking.

With a classmate, talk about these questions:

a) Do you use social media? Which ones? (TikTok, Instagram, etc.)

.....
.....

b) What are some good things and bad things about social media?

.....
.....

c) Write 2 good things and 2 bad things:

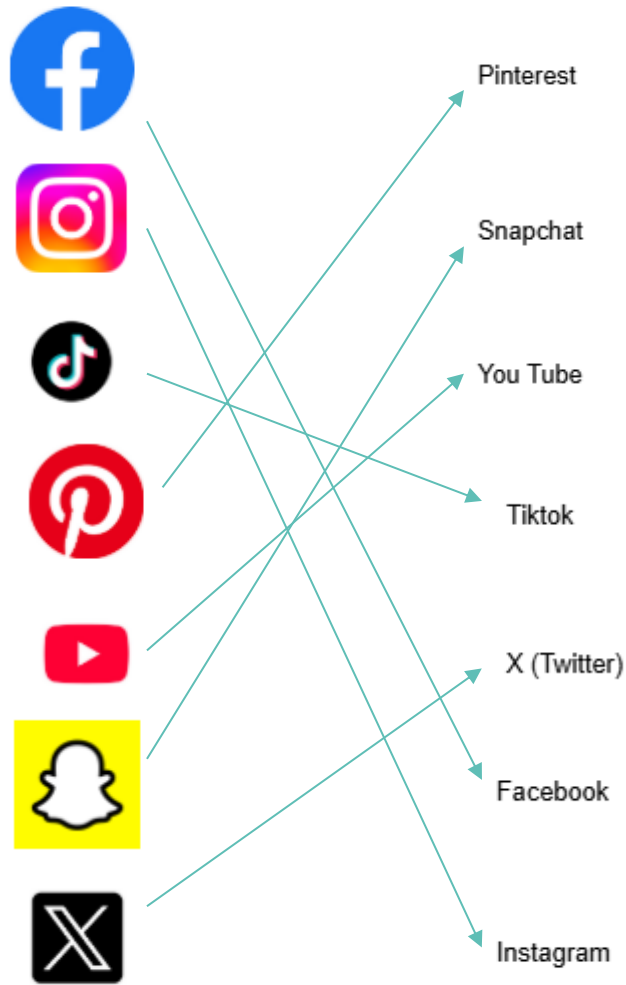
.....
.....





3. Social Media platforms.

Match the logos with the correct social media platforms.





4. Vocabulary

a) Match the word with the meaning.

Words: post, like, tag, hashtag, DM, share, profile

- **Post** A short message, photo or video you put online
- **Like** A heart or thumbs up to show you like something
- **Hashtag** A symbol “#” to group topics (example: #funny)
- **DM** A message only one person can read
- **Tag** To put someone's name in a photo or post
- **Profile** The page where you show your name and info
- **Share** To send something to others

b) Underline the correct social media words in the statements.

- An **emoji/post** is an image that is used to represent a feeling.
- Someone who tries to upset others on social media is called a **tweeter/troll**.
- Something that is popular on social media at a given time is **tweeting/trending**.
- An **influencer/subscriber** is a digital creator with a large social media following.
- A **blog/post** is a site where someone regularly records their thoughts online.
- A **post/trend** is something which someone has published on social media.

c) Unscramble the letters to find the correct word. All the words are related to social media or technology.

- EIFSLE → **SELFIE**
- IFIW → **WI-FI**
- PPA → **APP**
- RYSTO → **STORY**
- GSHTAAH → **HASGTAG**



d) Here are some actions that we all do while online. Match them with their **correct definitions**.

ACTION	DEFINITIONS
1. Create a profile	A. Stop someone looking at your photos or posts.
2. Send a personal message	B. Indicate who someone is in your social media post.
3. Block someone	C. See what your friends are doing on their profiles
4. Update your status	D. Read a person or company's regularly updated site.
5. Send a friend request	E. React positively to someone's post.
6. Tag someone in a photo	F. Spread quickly on the internet.
7. Read a blog	G. To subscribe to regularly view posts by someone.
8. Post a photo	H. Stop using social media.
9. Like someone's post	I. Send a message that only one person can see.
10. Unfriend someone	J. Start a personal page on social media.
11. Go viral	K. Update your profile with your current situation.
12. Follow someone	L. Publish a photo for others to see.
13. Check your newsfeed	M. Remove someone from your friend list.
14. Quit social media	N. Agree to be someone's friend.

1.J 2.I 3.A 4.K 5.N 6.B 7.D 8.L 9.E 10.M 11.F 12.G 13.C 14



5. Symbols used on the internet

We use these symbols everyday on the internet but what do they mean and what do we use them for?



@ is used in many different contexts, but primarily to indicate "at" or "address," especially in email addresses, social media, and other online settings.



Wi-Fi symbol - used to indicate that a device is connected to or has access to a Wi-Fi network.



Download symbol - is used to indicate that a file is being transferred to your device.



Hashtag - is used on social media platforms to categorize and make content searchable by topic or theme.



Share - allows us to share content with other users via email, WhatsApp etc.



Bluetooth - shows the connection between devices using Bluetooth technology.



Attach - used to attach a file or photo along with our email/message.



6. Technological phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs in English are very common. They are made up of a verb and a preposition/adverb (and in some cases both), giving the verb a completely different meaning. In the world of technology and social media we tend to use many of these. Here are some of the most common ones.

a) Can you put the verbs with the correct prepositions? Some may go in more than one column.

LOG

POP

SET

SING

SCROLL

TURN

SHUT

BACK

PLUG

IN	ON	OUT	UP	DOWN	OFF	THROUGH
Log in, Sing in, Plug in	Turn on	Log out, Sing out	Pop up, Scroll up, Back up, Set up, Sing up	Shut down, Scroll down	Log off, Shut off, Turn off	Scroll through

b) Complete the sentences using one of the phrasal verbs from the previous activity. You will need to put the verb into the correct tense.

- Before you can access the website, you need to **log in** with your email and password.
- I was trying to watch a video, but annoying ads kept **popping up** every few seconds.
- Make sure you **back up** all your important files before updating the system.
- He forgot to **log out** from his account at the internet café, and someone else used it.
- Can you help me **set up** my new phone? I don't know how to install the apps.
- Don't forget to **plug in** your laptop before the battery dies.



- I spent hours **scrolling through** my feed and didn't even realize it.
- You have to **sing up** for an account if you want to comment on the video.
- The computer suddenly started to overheat, so I had to **shut down** it immediately.

7. Vocabulary

Look at the vocabulary from the play and learn it. Choose 4 words and explain, in your own words, what you think they mean.

SUBSCRIPTION / MEMORY LOSS / BRAIN / PREMIUM PLAN / DECISION /
CONSCIOUSNESS / TUMOUR / DELETE / REPLACE / RENT-A-PERSON / UPGRADE /
EMOTIONAL CONTROL / GLITCH / ANDROID / HEADPHONES / DOWNLOAD / TEST /
FLUENCY / MISTAKE / IMMERSION / TOASTER / IMPLANT

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....





8. The three episodes - reading comprehension

1st Act - NOSE DIVE

In "Nosedive," society operates on a system where people rate each other from one to five stars after every interaction. Lacie, the protagonist, is obsessed with improving her social rating to climb the social ladder and secure a dream home. She attempts to boost her score by attending a high-status friend's wedding, but a series of misfortunes causes her rating to plummet rapidly. As her score falls, she feels lonely and loses access to services and privileges. The episode criticises the dangers of social media obsession, superficial validation, and societal conformity.

2nd Act - COMMON PEOPLE

In "Common People," a woman named Amanda, who is a teacher, falls into a coma. A tech company brings her back to life by streaming her thoughts, but it costs money. To keep paying for her treatment, Amanda is made to show ads without choosing to, and her husband Mike does embarrassing things online for cash. The story shows how technology and money can be used in harmful ways.

3rd Act - CHAD-GPTON

A student, Katy, receives as a prize an experimental artificial intelligence prototype that promises to teach her perfect English in just one week. She is completely committed to the AI 'putting the language into her head' without having to study. But as the week progresses, the AI makes it harder and harder for her and makes her make mistakes, until she can no longer keep up.

Answer the following questions about each of the acts. Use the texts above to help you.

1st Act – "Nosedive"

- **What is the main goal of the character Lacie?**

- To become famous online
 To travel around the world

- To improve her social rating
 To open her own business



- **What happens when Lacie's rating begins to drop?**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> She loses access to services | <input type="checkbox"/> She becomes more popular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> She gets a new job | <input type="checkbox"/> She wins a prize |

- **Why does Lacie want to go to her friend's wedding?**

She believes that attending a high-status friend's wedding will help improve her social rating.

- **How does the social rating system affect people in this society?**

It controls what services people can access and how they are treated by others.

- **Do you think a rating-based society like in "Nosedive" could happen in real life? Why or why not?**

Student's own answer. Accept any logical response that shows understanding of the topic.

2nd Act – "Common People"

- **What happens to Amanda at the beginning of the story?**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> She loses her job | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> She falls into a coma |
| <input type="checkbox"/> She gets a new teaching job | <input type="checkbox"/> She moves to a new city |

- **How does the tech company bring Amanda back?**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> By cloning her | <input type="checkbox"/> By using virtual reality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By uploading her mind | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By streaming her thoughts |

- **Why does Amanda have to show ads?**

Because her family needs to keep paying for the technology that keeps her alive.

- **What does Amanda's husband do to support her?**

He performs embarrassing things online to earn money for her treatment.



- **What message does this act give about the connection between money and technology?**

Student's own answer. Look for comments on how technology can be used for profit, sometimes in unfair or harmful ways.

3rd Act – "Chad-GPTon"

- **What is Katy's goal?**

To get better at science

To learn English quickly

To help her friend

To design a new AI

- **What happens as the week continues?**

The AI becomes more helpful

Katy starts teaching others

The AI causes her to make mistakes

The AI shuts down

- **What promise does the AI make to Katy?**

It promises to teach her perfect English in just one week without studying.

- **How does Katy's experience with the AI change over time?**

The AI becomes less helpful and makes learning more difficult, until she can no longer keep up.

- **What do you think this act says about depending too much on technology to learn?**

Student's own answer. Encourage opinions on active learning vs. passive dependence.



9. Writing: How social media affects us

Write a short text (120–150 words) about the role of social media in your life and its positive and negative sides.

Answer the questions below in your writing:

- a) What social media apps do you use, and why?
- b) How often do you use them, and what do you do on them?
- c) What are the advantages of social media?
- d) What are the disadvantages or dangers?
- e) Do you think people should use social media more carefully? Why?

Writing Tips:

- Use paragraphs (at least 2 or 3).
- Use connectors like because, however, although, for example, in my opinion.
- Use the present simple and present continuous correctly.
- Try to include some adjectives and adverbs (like useful, dangerous, often, carefully).

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....





10. Listening

Listen to **TRACKS 1 AND 2** and answer the following questions:

NOSE DIVE – SCENE 1

- **What does Lacie usually do when someone compliments her?**

She gives them five stars.

- **What does the rating system affect in Lacie's world?**

It affects everything: flights, flats, prizes, likes—your entire social status.

- **Why does Lacie force herself to smile and act happy all the time?**

Because being honest or quiet lowers your rating.

COMMON PEOPLE – SCENE 1 AND 2

- **What happened to Amanda while she was teaching?**

She felt dizzy and collapsed in the middle of class.

- **What diagnosis does Rivermind give Amanda?**

She has a tumor in the temporal lobe that affects her language, memory and consciousness.

- **What happens if Amanda doesn't pay for a subscription?**

The system will shut down and disconnection is irreversible.

CHAD-GPTON – SCENE 1

- **Why was Katy called to the science classroom?**

Because she was selected to take part in a pilot project about language learning.



- **Who is CHAD-GPTON?**

An advanced android designed to teach English quickly and perfectly.

- **What goes wrong when Katy tries to answer a grammar question?**

She makes a mistake saying "Say me the truth!" instead of using "tell".

11. Speaking

In pairs or small groups describe the following images related to social media, give opinions, and discuss the positives and negatives of each situation.

Instructions:

Part 1: Describe the Picture (1-2 minutes per student)

- Look at the image.
- Describe what you see. (Who is in the photo? What are they doing? Where are they?)
- What do you think is happening?

Part 2: Give Your Opinion (2-3 minutes pairs)

- Discuss these questions with a partner:
- Do you think this situation is common?
- Is it a good or bad use of social media? Why?
- Have you ever seen or experienced something like this?
- What advice would you give to this person?



in



AFTER GOING TO THE THEATRE

12. True or False

Read each sentence. Write True or False based on what happens in the play. Think carefully – some answers are tricky!

- | T | F | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Lacie always has a perfect score of 5.0 in the play.
False: Lacie starts at 4.2 and her score drops a lot. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Lacie goes to Naomi's wedding because they were good friends at school.
False: Naomi bullied Lacie at school; they were not friends. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lacie's brother tells her that she cares too much about her rating. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lacie misses her flight because her score goes down. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amanda tries a new brain treatment that costs money every month. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amanda's Basic Plan works perfectly and keeps her feelings normal. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mike has to choose between paying a lot of money or turning Amanda off.
False: The Basic Plan makes Amanda act strangely. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Katy learns English with an AI teacher called Chad-GPTON. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Chad-GPTON is kind and lets Katy make as many mistakes as she wants.
False: Chad-GPTON says Katy will become a robot if she makes too many mistakes. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The play shows that making mistakes is an important part of being human. |





13. Who said that?

Match the phrase to the character who says it: **LACIE**, **AMANDA**, **KATY**, **RIVERMIND** or **CHAD-GPTON**.

PHRASE	WHO SAYS IT?
"Some of the people out there gave me less than three stars."	LACIE
"I'm not asking for promises. I'm asking you to let me decide."	AMANDA
"You know what? If you cared just a little about your image, maybe you could get above 3.1."	LACIE
"Without an active subscription, the system will automatically shut down."	RIVERMIND
"Without our mistakes, you would be nothing."	KATY
"At least this way I have a chance."	AMANDA
"If you fail twice more, Katy... you will lose your voice. I'm not just talking about the language."	CHAD-GPTON
"But what are you saying? I'm a 4.2. The flight is for 4.2s, I looked it up."	LACIE
"Just look at me and tell me that what we had was real."	AMANDA
"Are you comparing me to a pizza?"	LACIE



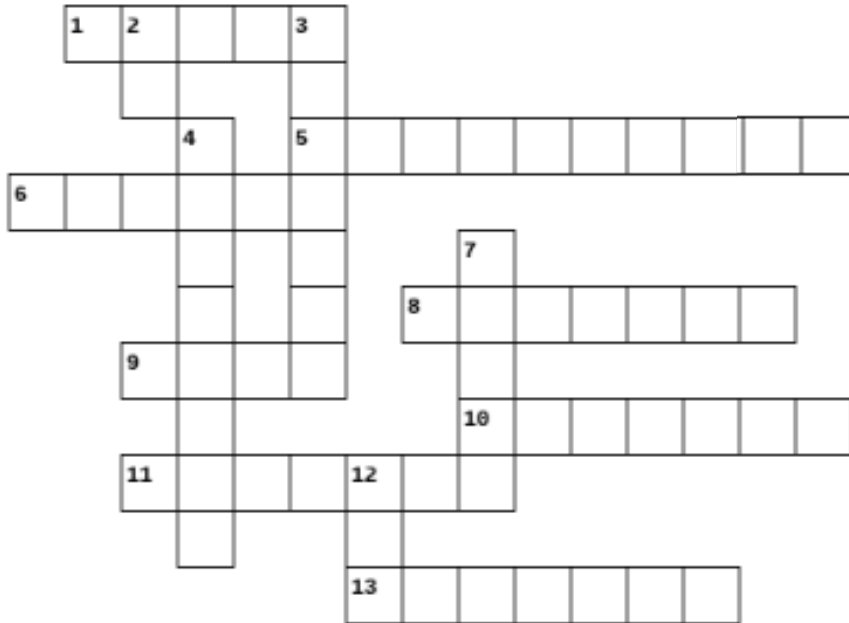
14. Matching parts

Match the parts taken from each episode with the correct Act: **NOSE DIVE**, **COMMON PEOPLE**, or **CHAD-GPTON**.

ACTION DESCRIPTION	ACT
A woman tries to attend a wedding to raise her social score.	NOSE DIVE
A husband does embarrassing stunts online to earn money.	COMMON PEOPLE
A girl relies on an AI to learn English instantly.	CHAD-GPTON
An experimental AI starts confusing and frustrating its user.	CHAD-GPTON
A character is judged based on a star rating system after every social interaction.	NOSE DIVE
A person begins losing privileges in society as her social score drops.	NOSE DIVE
A tech company makes money by streaming a coma patient's thoughts.	COMMON PEOPLE
A coma victim becomes an unwilling tool for advertising.	COMMON PEOPLE



15. Crossword



Across

1. To look at other's updates without interacting (5)
5. Not natural or real; often used to describe technology (8)
6. You send this to social media, often a photo or video (6)
8. To put photos or videos online for others to see (7)
9. A short text you share on platforms like Twitter (4)
10. A system that links computers and users together (7)
11. You send this electronically to talk to friends (7)

13. A description or page showing who you are online (7)

Down

2. Machines designed to imitate human intelligence (2 words, 3, 8)
3. An object used for experiencing digital environments (9)
4. A person who regularly checks your updates online (8)
7. A handheld gadget used for calls and texting (5)
12. A small program on your phone that helps with tasks (3)

1. Watch, 2. AI, 3. Headset, 4. Follower, 5. Artificial, 6. Upload, 7. Phone, 8. Sharing,



9. Post, 10. Network, 11. Message, 12. App, 13. Profile.

16. Writing – Review

Write a review about the TV series Black Mirror. In your review, talk about what the show is about, the main topics it talks about, and your opinion of it.

Instructions:

- Write 3–4 short paragraphs.
- Use simple language and clear sentences.
- Include what you liked or didn't like about the show.
- Give examples of some topics or stories from the show.

Suggested structure:

Paragraph 1: Introduction

- What is Black Mirror?
- What kind of TV series is it?

Paragraph 2: Topics the show talks about

- Mention some topics like technology, social media, future, or problems people can have.
- Explain why these topics are interesting or important.

Paragraph 3: Your opinion

- Did you like the show? Why or why not?
- What did you learn from it?

Paragraph 4: Recommendation (optional)

- Would you recommend the show to your friends? Why?

Helpful phrases:

- Black Mirror is a TV series about...
- The show talks about important topics like...
- One interesting story is about...
- I liked/didn't like the show because...



BLACK MIRROR

1st and 2nd ESO - Teacher's Guide

www.transeduca.com
info@transeduca.com
911 138 140
934 740 002

21



transeduca

www.transeduca.com
info@transeduca.com
911 138 140 / 934 740 002