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Gossip

Gossip is usually about things like love and relationships, or private things that people don't want others to know.



Rumor

A rumor is a statement (or report) that is being said without knowing if it is true or not.



What is the difference between Gossip and Rumor?



Gossip

casual talk about other people's private lives (might be unkind, disapproving, true or not true)

Have you heard the latest gossip about Tom cruise?

Rumours

information that is passed from one person to another and that may or may not be true

I heard rumours that he was going to be promoted.

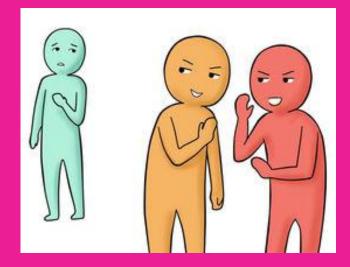
Real or made up

Rumors and Gossip might be true, they might be partially true, or totally made up. Unless someone can definitely say the story is true -it will stay a rumour or gossip story!



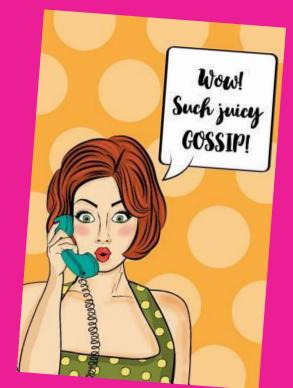
Rumors and Gossip spread

From person to person, or can spread from one person to a bunch of people at once. This is usually done behind the person's back.



Rumors and Gossip can change

They can change slightly each time they're told, so they get more exaggerated over time



Rumor Example

I heard that anybody who fails the next Sociolinguistics exam is going to have to repeat the subject next semester. What are some rumor/gossip examples that you have heard?



Why do people gossip and spread rumors?



- To feel superior
- To feel part of a group
- For attention
- For control or power
- Out of jealousy/revenge
- Out of boredom

Why It Hurts, Why It Wrong?



Words hurt as much or more than a punch! Gossip and rumors can be a form of exclusion -leaving someone out! Gossip and rumors DESTROY TRUST True or not, private is private!



Breaking the chain

Decide whether the rumor or gossip is hurtful or harmless by asking yourself the following questions.



How do you go about

Breaking The Chain of

rumors and gossip?



Triple Filter Test



Triple Filter Questions



Before telling someone something ask yourself these questions:

Is it True?
Is it Good?
Is it Useful?

If you can't say yes-DON'T REPEAT THE RUMOR

Someone Want To Tell You A Rumor

- 1. Refuse to repeat rumors or gossip
- 2. Tell the person to stop spreading rumors or gossip

Look the rumor-gossiper in the eye and using a strong (but not raised like yelling or angry) voice and say,

"That sound like a rumor. You should talk to _____(the name the rumor is about) and not spread that rumor to anyone else"

To Tell or Not To Tell

You are in the cafe at Unisel. You hear a girl planning a party and she distinctly says "I am not inviting Sarah"

Sarah is a good friend of yours, how many of you tell her what you have heard?

Rule of Thumb



- → If it's going to hurt the other person to hear it.....don't tell the person!
- → If you hear it from a third party, go with the assumption it is not true.
- → If you know the rumor is false-say so!

Other statements to say

- That sounds like a rumor to me!
- You don't have proof of that!
- You don't know if that's true!
- That sounds like something you should
- talk about with the person involved.





STOP GOSSIP





Conclusion

- When people gossip it's because they can't deal with negative issues in their own lives, and it's easier for them to criticize others than to face their own situation.
- And finally it gives people a feeling of power.