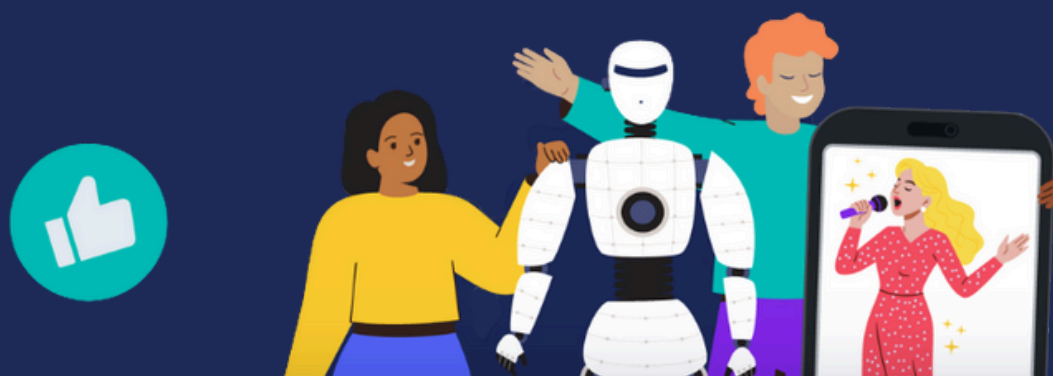




Cambridge
Dictionary

Word of the Year 2025



parasocial

adjective

involving or relating to a connection that someone feels between themselves and a famous person they do not know, a character in a book, film, TV series, etc., or an artificial intelligence

Explore how this word can spark vocabulary, reading, writing, and discussion activities in English lessons.

Why it matters to English teachers

Vocabulary

Introduce words like stan, fandom, parasocial grief, toxic fandom.

Reading & Writing

Analyse media, write fan messages, or short essays.

Speaking & Debate

Discuss parasocial relationships, express opinions, use lesson vocabulary.

Media Literacy

Explore how language reflects online culture, influencers, and AI.

Tip:

Use pop culture or AI examples to make lessons engaging and relevant.

Classroom activities

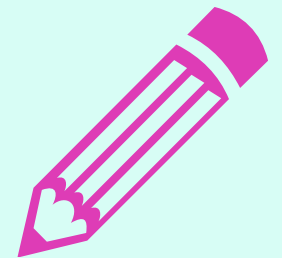
1. Vocabulary

Students define new words and give examples from music, TV, or gaming.



2. Writing Task

Write a short fan message to a celebrity, character, or AI. Discuss healthy vs. unhealthy admiration.



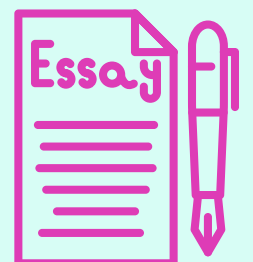
3. Debate

- Are parasocial bonds positive or negative?
- Can AI replace friendships?



4. Essay

Why are parasocial relationships more common today? Can they be positive? When might they be harmful?



**Where
your world
grows**

