

EMMA'S BLOG

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Don't write it, just send a photo of the traffic jam.

'Sorry, I'm going to be late.'



Don't bother to describe the meal, just snap a picture of it.

'This is what we're having for dinner.'



'I've bought some new trainers. They were a bargain!'



Message

Send

Sending a photo is quicker and easier than writing a text, or even a tweet. And there are no language problems. With images, you can chat to anyone in the world.

We share more moving images, too. Who wants to read an instruction manual when a short video is clearer? Why write a recipe? It's more fun to make a video and share it on Vimeo.

From prehistoric cave paintings to cartoons, communicating with images has always been a fundamental life skill. The difference is that new technology has made it much easier. A good example of this is Instagram, the photo and video sharing platform which was launched in 2010. By 2014, its users had already shared 30 billion images! Other companies like Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter are all investing more and more money in their photo and video services. They say that each year people are sending fewer text messages, and more photos and videos.

But is all this good or bad for language? Will we forget how to write? Is there anything that can only be said with words?

Posted on June 2, 2015

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- 2 What can users do on Vimeo?
- 3 Is communication with images a new skill?
- 4 What was launched in 2010?
- 5 What impact has new technology had on images?