

## 'How many aura points did I lose?' The new coolness currency has hints of Aristotle

### Level 1: Elementary – Teacher's notes

**Article summary:** The article explains the aura points trend and shows its connections to philosophy.

**Time:** 60 minutes

**Skills:** Reading, Speaking, Writing

**Language focus:** Phrasal Verbs

**Materials needed:** One copy of the worksheet per student

#### 1. Warmer

- a. The purpose of this activity is to let students have some fun with current slang terms. Have students guess what the terms mean. If you wish, you could have students give an equivalent term they already know in English or another language they know. To help make students' thinking visible, you may wish to ask, *What makes you say that?* Encourage students to try using the terms in a sentence or even having a "Gen Alpha" conversation. Note: Gen Alpha refers to those born between 2010 and 2025.

**Key:**

1. c
2. d
3. a
4. b

#### 2. Key words

- a. Ask students to do the exercise individually and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups. As an extension activity, ask students to highlight the key words in the article.

**Key:**

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. c. aura    | 6. b. philosopher |
| 2. a. point   | 7. c. character   |
| 3. a. hashtag | 8. a. anxiety     |
| 4. b. earn    | 9. b. success     |
| 5. c. lose    | 10. c. failure    |

- b. Before reading the article carefully, students use some of the key words to fill the gaps in the sentences to ensure that they understand and know how the words are used in other contexts. (Note: the answer to the question in #1 is six points.)

**Key:**

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. points   | 4. anxiety |
| 2. hashtags | 5. failure |
| 3. aura     | 6. success |

#### 3. Comprehension check

- a. Students answer the questions based on the information in the article. They may do this in different ways, e.g. in item 1, they may say, 'The new way to calculate your charisma is by counting your aura points.'

**Key (suggested answers):**

1. counting aura points
2. 378 per cent
3. asking someone out and getting a yes; moving on quickly from a break-up
4. still on Snapchat but older than 19; answering a question in class but get it wrong; staying with a cheater
5. on TikTok
6. Aristotle
7. speaking to others about what we're doing in life and whether it's good
8. the idea that good actions can make up for future bad ones
9. anxiety about what others think of us and about whether we're judged as a success or a failure
10. People are looking for feedback and are part of the process by posting their opinions.

#### 4. Key language

- a. The activity gives students an opportunity to think about four phrasal verbs used in the article and identify their meanings. As an extension activity, ask students to look for these phrasal verbs in the article.

**Key:**

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. c | 3. d |
| 2. a | 4. b |

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- b. Students have an opportunity to use the phrasal verbs above in context. Ask them to complete the sentences with the correct option. As an extension activity, ask students to write one or more sentences of their own using the phrasal verbs.

**Key:**

1. *make up for*
2. *move on*
3. *show up*
4. *match up*

### 5. Discussion

- a. Students discuss the statements related to the article and give their reasons and justifications for each answer, referring to their own experiences wherever possible.

### 6. In your own words

- a. Ask students to research more about social media trends and/or hashtags.
- b. Students could then present their reports to the class. Encourage students to share their opinions and give reasons to support their answers. Encourage students to use some of the given phrases in their presentations when using emphasis during their reports.