

## Inquiring into the Essay

1. **Explore.** Among other things, the studies Pappas cites suggest that people with a lot of Facebook friends are more likely to be depressed by others' status updates than those with fewer friends. She also speculates that some men use Facebook to "compete with one another" rather than connect, as women do, and that these men are more likely to feel down on themselves. What's your own take on this? Try both the believing game and the doubting game. In what ways might these things be true? In what ways do you think they aren't true? Fastwrite for at least five minutes in your journal, exploring your thinking about this.

**Explain.** The "takeaway" from this recent research, Pappas writes, "is not to dump your Facebook account," but to be careful how you use it. This seems a sensible, if uninteresting, conclusion. Explain your takeaway from the article. What did you find most interesting and relevant to the research question we're addressing?

**Evaluate.** Return to the initial assumptions or first thoughts you had about the research question: *Is there a relationship between Facebook and depression?* Using ideas, information, and, if helpful, quotes from the article, write a fat paragraph about how the article influenced your thinking.

- Did it confirm or contradict your initial theories about the connection between Facebook and depression. If so, how?
- Did it revise your thinking? What in the article seemed particularly influential?
- Did it give you a new idea about what you think about the connection? Did another, more specific inquiry question arise that interests you?

**Reflect.** As I mentioned earlier, you'll harvest a lot of web pages like "Facebook with Care" while doing online research; these secondary sources can be useful *if* you can trust the source to report on and interpret others' findings accurately. The question is, though, what exactly makes a secondary source trustworthy? How would you evaluate that?

## Reading 2: Journal Article

1, *Pediatrics*, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), published a "clinical report" on "The Impact of Social Media on Children's Mental Health."