

Reasons to be cheerful about the young  
A vast cohort is coming of age  
**Some** 2bn people were born...  
This group makes up a fifth of the population  
rivalling the share of baby-boomers  
the young far outnumber the old  
shaped by post-war plenty  
For Gen Z the popular view is that...  
live grimmer lives than their elders  
worse off than their parents  
worry about everything from X to Z  
looming dangers from climate change  
Social scientists fret that  
spent their formative years doom scrolling and suffering from FOMO  
gripped by an epidemic of anxiety and depression  
Politicians are mulling banning smartphones ...  
Under-16s  
police screen time  
and at a wider set of measures  
far from doomed (=failed)  
In many respects, they are doing rather well  
make an important omission (=leave it out)  
: (colon) give an explanation or clarification of a previous point or word  
emerging economies  
better informed and connected  
might fail to repeat itself  
In the rich world the picture is rosier than people think.  
In work (=employed)  
Red-hot demand for  
As does the fact that Gen Z-ers are wisely acquiring marketable skills  
fallen out of favor  
comfortably exceeds that of  
housing affordability has worsened  
stronger wage growth  
transforming the world of work  
bargaining power  
came of age in the shadow of the global financial crisis  
so precarious that they were afraid to ask for pay rises  
Gen Z seems to have fewer **qualms** (=self-doubt) about  
unused to being on the back foot (=at a disadvantage)  
quietly thankful  
They are a serious bunch  
less given to late nights  
reflects a greater willingness to open up about mental health

the extent to which social media fuel mental distress among the young is furiously debated  
the rise in anxiety coincides with the adoption of social media  
hard (=tangible) evidence of causation is limited  
has been at the sharp end of a technological revolution  
left users, and young people in particular scrambling to figure out  
time spent scrolling could have been devoted to study  
transformative technologies  
retreating to private groups  
justify a blanket ban on smartphones  
bar them from classrooms  
parents are right to restrict screen time.  
It is only natural ...