SUSANNA DESTE

Express your own attitude to emojis. How often do you use them and under what circumstances.

In my opinion, emojis are useful tools for digital communication as they are cute, funny and often enable people to express their emotions even without the use of facial expressions or intonation, tools that in face-to-face interactions are definitely vital. However, I do not believe that emojis are essential to communication, because, even though they are mainly used to convey what you are feeling in a specific context, you could also decide to use them in order to deceive the person you are talking to. For example, while I do tend to use emojis when I want the person I am speaking with in that moment to know that I am happy, sad or angry, at the same time, there are occasions when I choose to insert smiley faces in my messages even when I am annoyed at someone I am texting. The reason why I do this is because, despite being angry, I still want to be polite, even at the cost of reassuring the other person that he or she is not upsetting me. Usually, I act like this only when I am exchanging texts with someone I am not close to. If, for example, I were to talk with a member of my family or a close friend they would be immediately aware of my anger because I would not use emojis, my answers would be short and serious and my punctuation and grammar would be perfect. Therefore, while I use emojis quite often because I want to share my emotions, sometimes the choice of not using them conveys much better what I am feeling.