Well , I encountered the internet on it's pretty late stage , around 1996 . The technologies that were used then were already "modern" technologies : I had a PC (486 to be specific) , modem and was connected using ISP to the   
internet .  
Of course at those days the surfing was billed per hour (and was pretty expensive) and was slow , but it opened a new world for me . I didn't know anything about TCP\IP those days but I did know that I was able to talk to strangers around the world (of course , only when no one in my home used the phone :) , since back then you could either surf or talk on phone , but not both ) .  
Of course I surfed the web and visited various sites , but as I said before the most mind blowing experience for me was mIRC , the ability to speak to new people around the globe was really amazing. Almost each day I spent a hour or so talking to people around the world , exchanging ideas , learning other cultures , sharing information and even small talk , all was very existing to me.

Later few other uses of the internet were happily adopted by me (online gaming , mailing , ICQ , simple ability to search for answers for given questions) , yet my first and most remembered experience was the text messaging over the web.

Thanks for reading !   
(I'm not native English speaker so I'd appreciate if you could ignore grammar mistakes :) )