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**[Type the fax number]**

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Table of Contents

History of Internet

Internet, world’s biggest network which is useful for many purposes even the basement for the era of the current technology, was first built in order to connect the United States (US) Department of Defense and Stanford University for their military purpose. On October 29, 1969 the first message was sent from US Department of Defense to Stanford University with the first network which is called Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET) but it was crashed, the first two letters of the whole message was received by the Stanford’s computer.

The technology continued to grow in the 1970s after scientists Robert Kahn and Vinton Cerf developed Transmission Control Protocol and Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) which is a communication model that set standards for how data could be transmitted between multiple networks. Then, ARPANET adopted TCP/IP on January 1, 1983 and began to assemble the network of networks , that became the modern Internet.

The internet has changed from a US dominated communications medium to one that is seeing its fastest growth in Asia and Europe. After the invention of the Internet, the online world become more recognizable thing when Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web.

The web began to took off in 1993, after the invention of the first popular Web browser, known as Mosaic, by Marc Andreessen. Since then the usage of Internet and web pages has exploded.

The last but not the least, according to Forbes predictions, the Internet will change over the next 15 years with some features. The first is that internet connection will be permanent and automatic which means we don’t need any process in order to connect to it like entering WiFi passwords or waiting to connect to dial-up connections. The next one is, machines will take our job because of the the high-level and intellectual skills. The last one and the amazing prediction is that Earth won’t be the only planet with Internet access.

### Personal observations and assessment on Popular websites

### YouTube

### YouTube is an online video sharing service where users can watch, upload, like comment and so on using the internet. It was founded by the three PayPal employees; Jawed Karim, Steve Chen and Chad Hureley. It was launched in 2005 and has now become one of the most visited websites in the history of internet. Google acquired the company less than a year later. Since 2012, YouTube gone from strength to strength and now finds itself as a multi-billion dollar company.

### When we come to the features on the development progress of the website, on the first 5 months after the launching period (Apr, 2005), they tried to add some features like showing the list of videos that were posted on that day on the front page. Then after 3 or 4 years they add some features like showing video lists that were being watched by others right at that time, promoted videos. On 2008 they also launched YouTube Live which is used to stream live on the Internet. As time goes, their video qualities become to be amazing and also it can convert the video quality according to the internet speed(bandwidth) in order to use time. They also tracked the history of the users to create an auto generated playlist for the user. They also tried to recommend videos based on the last visited sites with the user.

### When we come to the layout (design part), they tried to have a more attractive and simpler graphics interface for the user. Until 2011 the links were not more attractive.

**Facebook**

Facebook is an online social media. It was founded by Mark Zuckerberg in the fellow with Harvard University students in January 2004. Then, Facebook passed 100 million registered users in 2008 and 500 million in July 2010.

When we come to the layout, on the first two years all the information of the user was seen on the first or home page. Then after in 2006 they modified their home page and hide all personal information from the home page. After 2007, they used the center pane for the news feed feature. In 2013, they added a cover photo at the back of the profile picture. After 2016, they work more on the hierarchical folder status and they only add useful buttons on the home page like inbox, find friends and so on.

When we come to the features of Facebook, they started messaging on 2008.

**Amazon**

The layout of the web has become more and more user-friendly. As its initial state, its menu was at the left side of the screen and the details were on the center pane of the screen. Then after they tried to contain the picture of the item. They also tried many color combination until they thought they got the more attractive one.

After 2012 they totally changed the layout of the website. They drop out the left side pane and they merge all the categories in one drop down menu. Then, the rest place is used to show the item with its information which makes it better in order to give more information about the item. After 2015, they made the better layout which uses the whole screen to show the items that are under the stock. They added more basic user-friendly buttons, drag and drop features in order to make the more easier for the end-user.

**Fantasy Premier League**

Fantasy Premier League is an website that offers users to build their dream team and to compete each other with its own rules and regulations. Since 2002, they tried to have more user-friendly website. After 2002, on 2011 the website had changed the entire part of its homepage structure. They started to use the whole part of screen for more details about the premier league and the user’s team status. Later on, they take the right side to give more common options that the user wants to visit.

They group their features in order to use the navigation bar as drop down in order to management and proper usage of space.

**Gmail**

In 2004 when the beta version is launched, the layout is not that much attractive. But still it has more features like labeling emails as the user wants, drafts, filtering scams and chatting. Then they tried to address all over the world(through adding more languages to their platform) and having a good home page. After 2008 they edited the layout a lot. They give the priority for in boxing since every critical message are passing through it. So, they start working on security issues, two-step verification is added to their system. At last they provide free 10 GB storage for their user.

Also the logo has changed , from google mail up to gmail.

**Categories of websites**

Portal, **News**, Informational, Business/Marketing, Educational, Entertainment, Advocacy, **Blog**, **Wiki**, **Social Network**, **Content** **Aggregator**, Personal

**Portal**

**DigitalNZ :** [**https://digitalnz.org/**](https://digitalnz.org/)

**DigitalNZ is the search site for all things New Zealand. We connect you to reliable digital collections from our content partners, including libraries, museums, galleries, government departments, the media, community groups and others. On DigitalNZ you can discover more than 30 million digital items from more than 200 organizations on any topic, all for free. You'll find:** videos, newspapers ,maps ,photographs ,audio and so on.

Addis Ababa Institute of Technology: <https://portal.aait.edu.et/>

The Portal is designed to provide services for Students, Applicants, Academic Staff and for those who play management role at Addis Ababa University.

**News**  
Cable News Network (CNN) : [https://edition.cnn.com](https://edition.cnn.com/)

It is an American news based website which is owned by AT&T. The website was launched in 1995. CNN website is the world leader in online news and information and seeks to inform , engage and empower the world. It mainly posts latest news, breaking news, documentaries, and other related things. Beside the news service includes email newsletters, online store to buy hats, shirts, bags, and more.

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC): [https://www.bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/)

It is a British news based large network of websites including sport and other video and radio services which is a 24/7 news station. The website was introduced in 1994. It also offers different sound and video stream services.

National Broadcasting company (NBC) news :

NBC news is the division part of NBC which broadcasts sports, news and other documentaries for all over the world. It is owned by Comcast Corporation.

The Guardian : [https://www.thegugrdian.com](https://www.thegugrdian.com/)

The Guardian is a British daily newspaper. It is founded in 1821 as the Manchester Guardian. The Guardian site presents with a more compact view of the news agenda as it changes throughout the day and night.

VOA Amharic : <https://amharic.voanews.com/>

VOA Amharic provides news and information to Ethiopia. Amharic is the official language of Ethiopia, which has an estimated population of 85 million. It is part of Voice of America in a United States multimedia which serves for non military broadcasting.

**Informational**

Hopmonk Traven Informational website

Nobleprize.org

**Business/Marketing**

GebeyaNu : <https://www.gebeyanu.com/>

It is an Ethiopian web-technology that focuses on e-commerce.

Amazon : <https://www.amazon.com/>

Amazon is an American multinational technology company based in Seattle that focuses on e-commerce, cloud computing, digital streaming, and artificial intelligence. It is considered one of the Big Four tech companies, along with Google, Apple, and Facebook

eBay : <https://www.ebay.com/>

It is an American global multinational e-commerce corporation leader that connects millions of buyers and sellers around the world. eBay creates inspiring e-commerce experiences for our buyers, sellers and developers.

paypal

**Educational**

edX : <http://www.edx.org/>

edX was founded in May 2012 by scientists from Harvard and MIT. It is a massive open online course provider. It hosts online university-level courses in a wide range of disciplines to a worldwide student body, including some courses at no charge. It also conducts research into learning based on how people use its platform.

Coursera : <https://www.coursera.org/>

Coursera was founded in 2012 by Stanford University computer science professors Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller. It is an American online learning platform that offers massive open online courses, specializations, and degrees.

Khan Academy : <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Khan Academy is a non-profit educational organization created in 2008 by Salman Khan with the goal of creating a set of online tools that help educate students. The organization produces short lessons in the form of videos. It also offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom.

Udemy : <https://www.udemy.com/>

Udemy is helping individuals reach their goals and pursue their dreams. It is an online learning platform aimed at professional adults and students, developed in May 2010. As of Jan 2020, the platform has more than 50 million students and 57,000 instructors teaching courses in over 65 languages.

Udacity : <https://www.udacity.com/>

Udacity, Inc. is a for-profit educational organization founded by Sebastian Thrun, David Stavens, and Mike Sokolsky offering massive open online courses. Udacity is where lifelong learners come to learn the skills they need, to land the jobs they want, to build the lives they deserve.

**Entertainment**

YouTube : <https://www.youtube.com/>

YouTube's mission is to give everyone a voice and show them the world. Learn about our brand, community, careers and more. It is an American video-sharing platform headquartered in San Bruno, California. Three former PayPal employees—Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim—created the service in February 2005. Google bought the site in November 2006 for US$1.65 billion; YouTube now operates as one of Google's subsidiaries.

Netflix : <https://www.netflix.com/et/>

**Netflix** is a streaming service that allows our members to watch a wide variety of award-winning TV shows, movies, documentaries, and more on thousands of internet-connected devices. It is an American media-services provider and production company headquartered in Los Gatos, California, founded in 1997 by Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph in Scotts Valley, California.

Entertainment Tonight(ET) : <https://www.etonline.com/>

Entertainment Tonight is the authoritative source on entertainment and celebrity news with unprecedented access to Hollywood’s biggest stars.

Spotify : <https://www.spotify.com/>

Spotify is a digital music service that gives you access to millions of songs. It is legally domiciled in Luxembourg and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

Internet Movie Database (IMDb): <https://www.imdb.com/>

IMDb is an online database of information related to films, television programs, home videos, video games, and streaming content online – including cast, production crew and personal biographies, plot summaries, trivia, fan and critical reviews, and ratings.

**Blog**

WordPress : <https://wordpress.com/>

WordPress is a free and open-source content management system written in PHP and paired with a MySQL or MariaDB database. Features include a plugin architecture and a template system, referred to within WordPress as Themes.

Wix : [https://wix.com/](https://wordpress.com/)

Wix is a Israeli software company, providing cloud-based web development services. It allows users to create HTML5 websites and mobile sites through the use of online drag and drop tools.

Blogger : <https://www.blogger.com/>

Blogger is a blog-publishing service that allows multi-user blogs with time-stamped entries. It was developed by Pyra Labs, which was bought by Google in 2003. The blogs are hosted by Google and generally accessed from a subdomain of blogspot.com.

Ghost : <https://ghost.org/>

Ghost is a free and open source blogging platform written in JavaScript and distributed under the MIT License, designed to simplify the process of online publishing for individual bloggers as well as online publications.

Square Space : <https://www.squarespace.com/>

Squarespace is a private American company, based in New York City, that provides software as a service for website building and hosting. Its customers use pre-built website templates and drag and drop elements to create web pages.

**Wiki**

Wiki How : [https://www.wikihow.com](https://www.wikihow.com/)

Wiki How is an online wiki-style community consisting of an extensive database of how-to guides. Founded in 2005 by Internet entrepreneur Jack Herrick, the website aims to create the world's most helpful how-to instructions to enable everyone in the world to learn how to do anything.

Wiki travel : <https://wikitravel.org/>

Wiki travel is a web-based collaborative travel guide based on the wiki model and owned by Internet Brands. It was most active from 2003 through 2012, when most of its editing community left and brought their contributions to the nonprofit Wiki voyage guide.

Wiktionary: <https://www.wiktionary.org/>

Wiktionary is a multilingual, web-based project to create a free content dictionary of terms in all natural languages and a number of artificial languages. These entries may contain definitions, pronunciation guides, inflections, usage examples, related terms, images for illustration, among other features.

PCGamingWiki : <https://www.pcgamingwiki.com/>

The PCGamingWiki is a collaboratively edited, free Internet encyclopedia focused on collecting game behavior data to optimizing game play and fixing issues found in PC video games. Intended fixes and optimizations range from simple cut scene removals to modifications that allow for wide-screen resolutions and more.

Wikipedia : <https://www.wikipedia.org/>

Wikipedia is a free online encyclopedia, created and edited by volunteers around the world and hosted by the Wiki media Foundation.

**Social** **Network**

Face Book : <https://www.facebook.com/>

Facebook is an online social media. It was founded by Mark Zuckerberg in the fellow with Harvard University students in January 2004.

Instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/>

Instagram is an American photo and video-sharing social networking service which is owned by Facebook. Instagram account has a profile and a news feed. When you post a photo or video on Instagram, it will be displayed on your profile.

Twitter : [https://twitter.com/](https://twitter.com/l)

Twitter is an American micro blogging and social networking service on which users post and interact with messages known as “Tweets”. Follow everything from breaking news and entertainment, to sports, politics, and everyday interests

Telegram : <https://telegram.org/>

Telegram is a cloud-based instant messaging and voice over IP service. Telegram message is a new era of messaging with heavily encrypted and high privacy ,up-to self destruct. It is cloud-based, fast, distributed and free social network. Pavel Durov is the founder and majority owner of this platform.

SnapChat : <https://www.snapchat.com/>

Snapchat is a multimedia messaging app used globally, created by Evan Spiegel, Bobby Murphy, and Reggie Brown.

**Content Aggregator**

Alltop : <https://alltop.com/>

Alltop is a news aggregation site that provides “all the top” stories for forty of the most popular topics on the Web. The headlines and first paragraph of the five most recent stories from forty to eighty sources for each topic are displayed.

Popurls : <http://m.popurls.com/>

PopUrls is a mashup of the web's most visited social news sites and portals that encapsulates headlines of its sources in near-realtime. It was introduced in March 2006 by Thomas Marban. It is also called mother of news aggregators.

Feedly : <https://feedly.com/>

Feedly is a news aggregator application for various web browsers and mobile devices running iOS and Android. It is also available as a cloud-based service. It compiles news feeds from a variety of online sources for the user to customize and share with others. Feedly was first released by DevHD in 2008.

Panda : <https://usepanda.com/>

Panda is a great tool for anyone working as a web designer, developer, or who has the entrepreneurial spirit. It is unique among aggregator sites because it follows Dribble, Behance, Product Hunt, GitHub.

The Web List : <https://theweblist.net/>

The Web List functions similarly to Popurls in that it’s a one-page content aggregator website that collects content from a huge variety of sources.

**Personal**

Cristiano Ronaldo **: [https://cristianoronaldo.com/#cr7](https://cristianoronaldo.com/" \l "cr7)**

Cristiano Ronaldo is a professional soccer player who has set records while playing for the Manchester United, Real Madrid and Juventus clubs, as well as the Portuguese national team.

Simon Sinek : <https://simonsinek.com/>

Simon Sinek is an American author and motivational speaker. He was born in Wimbledon, London and as a child lived in Johannesburg. He is also motivational speaker.

**Guidelines for Evaluating the value of a websites**

1. Authority

Authority reveals that the person, institution or other agent responsible for a site has the qualification and knowledge to do so. Which means it should be clearly stated who developed the site. The publisher contact information should be clearly provided and accurate.

2. Purpose

As stating the purpose of the website is the first step for making a website, it should be presented in the site and it also should be vivid.

The purpose should specify

* The audience in a specific manner (students, general reader,…).
* The content’s general view
* The website's category (according to the 12 categories

3. Coverage

It should claim comprehensive or selective coverage of a topic and the value of the site’s information compared to other similar sites. compare This point must answer the following topics;

* Are the topics explored in depth?
* Do the links go to outside sites rather than its own?

4. Currency

Currency of the site refers to how current the information presented is and how often the site is updated or maintained. This involves finding the date information was:

* first written
* placed on the web
* last revised

This will answer the following questions:

* Is the links are up-to-date?
* Is the provided link reliable?
* Is the site been under construction for some time?

5. Objectivity

The objectivity of the site must be clear in order to minimize the confusion that appears on the end-user mind. Objective sites present information with a minimum of bias.

* Is the site trying to explain, inform, persuade, or sell something?
* Is the information presented with a particular bias?
* Does site advertising conflict with the content?

6. Accuracy

Most of the time to insure that the accuracy of the website’s information is the responsibility of the reader or the user. To evaluate the accuracy of the website

* Reliability
* References: do statistics and other factual information receive proper references as to their origin?
* Does the reading you have already done on the subject make the information seem accurate?
* Is the information comparable to other sites on the same topic?
* Does the text follow basic rules of grammar, spelling and composition?
* Is a bibliography or reference list included?