**History of the internet**

The internet is a massive network of networks that connects millions of computers together globally and any two computers can communicate as long as they both are connected to the internet. Nowadays the internet is used for communication, sharing information, gaining knowledge, entertainment and many other purposes.

The internet was not invented by a single person at once; instead it evolved over time and many scientists, programmers and engineers contributed their part to make it the way it is now. The internet got its start over 50 years ago when computers were the size of one room. It was used by the US government as a weapon in the cold war. The military was concerned that if an attack was made on the telephone network by the Soviet Union the whole network would be destroyed and long-distance communication wouldn’t be possible.

In 1962 a scientist named J.C.R Licklider proposed a solution to this problem which was a network of computers that could talk to one another. In 1965 another scientist named Kleinrock developed a way of sending information from one computer to the other, which is called ”packet switching”. In packet switching data is broken down into small blocks known as packets and takes different routes to get to its destination. In 1969 the first ever message was sent from one computer to another through the government’s computer network known as ARPAnet. The first computer was located in a lab at UCLA and the second computer was located at Stanford. The message that was sent was “LOGIN” but it crashed the network and the message received by the computer at Stanford was “LO”. By the end of 1969 only 4 computers were connected to the ARPAnet then in 1971 the University of Hawaii’s ALOHAnet was added, and two years later networks of London’s University Collage and the Royal Rader in Norway were added. After that various networks from different parts of the world were added and it started to become difficult for them to integrate into a single network.

In 1971 a computer scientist named Vinton Cerf came up with a way for the computers in mini-networks to communicate with one another in a virtual space. He called this invention “Transmission Control Protocol” or TCP later he added an additional protocol called “Internet protocol” this changed the name to TCP/IP. IN the 1980’s scientists used this protocol to send data back and forth. In 1983 Paul Mockapetris invented DNS or domain name system which is like a phonebook of the internet that maps domain name to IP address which allows us to search for sites using their domain names.

In 1991 a computer programmer named Tim Berners-lee invented the World Wide Web. This was not just a way to send data from place to place but it was also a web of information that was accessible to anyone on the internet. In 1992 the first browser with graphical interface called ERWISE was created then In 1993 MOSAIC was created by a group of students at the University of Illinois. Mosaic had a user friendly interface and made surfing the web very popular, its name was later changed to NETSCAPE. When the web started being used for commercial purposes companies started to set up their websites and some entrepreneurs started to use the internet to sell goods. The first transaction made on the web is order to the pizza hut. After that different search engines started being introduced, the popular search engine Google was invented in 1998 by two computer scientists named Larry Page and Sergey Brin. In recent years different social networking sites have been introduced and these have made people even more connected.

**Reference**

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