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**ADDIS ABABA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**CENTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING**

DEPARTMENT OF **Information Technology**

Assignment 1

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1. History of the Internet

The internet is a network of networks and through time, its growth has become so significant that even our lives started depending on it. This gradual evolution of the internet has come through some events since its beginning. These time lined events in history led to its phenomenal dominance.

Its origin

The origin of the internet dates back to nearly 40 years, the present day internet is the commercial descendant of the ARPANet, developed for the US Department of Defense Advanced Research Project Agency(DARPA). The ARPANet sent its first messages in 1969 at UCLA. Since then, the internet has undergone more than just a name change. The number of computers connected to the internet has grown exponentially, while the number of users has risen from a handful of computer scientists to 1.5 billion consumers.

The growth of host and users

Internet usage has exploded since 1995, when researchers first started tracking this statistics, the number of computers connected to it has shown a dramatic increment form what it used to be back then. At first it connected 4 computers at university research labs, today, the internet links more than 440 million computers directly and millions more have internet access through private addressing schemes.

It has become a global phenomenon

The internet has changed from a united states dominated network of networks, to a widely used network that is seeing its fastest growth in Asia and Europe. To our surprise, in a survey which was conducted in 2019, the country with the fastest internet connection is Taiwan, with united states ranking fifteenth with Europe countries such as the Netherlands and Luxemburg sitting above this pioneer country.

The invention of the world wide web

In 1990, Tim Berners Lee invented the world wide web as a method of publishing information in a hypertext format on the internet. The web began to take off in 1993, after computer science student Mark Anderson created the first popular web browser called Mosaic. Since then, the number of websites and web pages has shown explosive increment.

Generally speaking, the internet has now become so attached to our lives that we may not be able to survive in its absence. It serves us with a great deal by saving our time, money and energy.

1. Facebook and its evolution over the years

* **2006 –** news feed with the lowest quality started.
* **2011** – its design differed a lot since its preceding years by allowing us to add a cover photo that is the major phenomenon I observed.
* **2020 –** it is by far the most advanced Facebook I have ever seen. It is graphically appealing and easy to use.

IMDB

* **2013 –** the color combination was not eye catching, box office labeled brown and the movies labeled blue with black numberings? Not so much.
* **2015 –** better view, more appealing with matching color combinations and a more interesting news feed.
* **2020 –** in my opinion, there is not much difference between 2015, 2019 and 2020. All three were good looking, appealing and interesting websites of their time.

Wikihow and its evolution over time

* **2013 –** looks good; I really like how they presented the headlines; it’s kind of stylish for a 2013 wikihow.
* **2017 –** I did not see major changes between periods 2013-2016 aside from having a static headline but in 2017, they prepared multiple platforms like Facebook, Google and Civics for us to join wikihow.
* **2019 –** they added email on their ‘join wikihow’ window; and as usual they got a bit more graphically appealing.

You tube and its evolution

* **2010 –** it’s not eye catching at all. It displayed the videos in plain small boxes of windows that was so unattractive but the categorization of the videos was okay.
* **2015 –** it was way much better than what I saw in 2010. Its display style changed pretty much.
* **2020 –** it’s really good now banking on its strategy to take form an online social platform to a glamorous entertainment network.

W3School and its evolution over time

* **2013 –** it does look like a 2013 w3school website, it looks a bit old and not that much eye catching.
* **2017 –** it became greener, but this time it was a cooler green that the previous versions. It is more graphically interesting now and the courses to be learned are moved from the right of the screen to the left side of the screen which was more comfortable for the eye.
* **2019 –** I did not see that much difference in between 2017 and 2019 but for sure w3school is one of my favorite learning platforms because of its appealing nature.

1. Categories of Websites

Educational

* Edx - <https://www.edx.org/>
* Khan academy - <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
* Bright Storm - <https://www.brightstorm.com/>
* W3Schools - <https://www.w3schools.com/>
* Udemy - <https://www.udemy.com/>

Entertainment

* IMDB - <https://www.imdb.com/tv/>
* Netflix - <https://www.netflix.com/et/>
* You tube - <https://www.youtube.com/> - lots of entertaining sites on youtube are available.
* Spotify - <https://www.spotify.com/>
* Iheart Radio - <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/>

Blog

* Word press - <https://wordpress.org/>
* Wix - <https://www.wix.com/> - a blogging platform for small websites.
* Blogger - <https://www.blogger.com/>
* Weebly - <https://www.weebly.com/>
* Typepad - <https://www.typepad.com/>

Advocacy

* Word Advocacy - [http://www.worldadvocacy.com](http://www.worldadvocacy.com/)
* Environmental Defense Action Fund - [http:/www.undoit.org](http://www.undoit.org/)
* Natural Resources Defense Council - [http://www.nrdcwildplaces.org](http://www.nrdcwildplaces.org/)
* Amnesty International - [http://www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org/)
* Greenpeace - [http://www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org/)

Wiki

* Wikihow - <https://www.wikihow.com/Main-Page>
* Wiktionary - <https://www.wiktionary.org/>
* Wikibooks - <https://en.wikibooks.org/>
* Wikitravel - <https://wikitravel.org/>
* Wikiquotes - <https://en.wikiquote.org/>

Social Network

* Twitter - <https://twitter.com/twitter>
* Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/>
* Tumblr - <https://www.tumblr.com/>
* Reddit - <https://www.reddit.com/>
* Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/>

Content Aggregator

* Alltop - <https://alltop.com/>
* Popurls - <http://popurls.com/>
* The web list - <https://theweblist.net/>
* WP news network - <http://wpnewsdesk.com/>
* Blog engage - <http://www.blogengage.com/>

Personal

* RachaelKing - <http://www.rachaelgking.com/>
* Devon Stank - <https://www.devonstank.com/>
* Kristi Hines - <https://kristihines.com/>
* Red russak - <http://redrussak.com/>
* Sarah Chang - <http://www.sarahlichang.com/>

Marketing

* DMN - [www.dmnews.com](http://www.dmnews.com/) – explores digital and data driver marketing.
* Fortune -  [www.fortune.com](http://www.fortune.com/)
* Inc. - [www.inc.com](http://www.inc.com/)
* Amazon - <https://www.amazon.com/>
* EBay - <https://www.ebay.com/>

Informational

* Wikipedia - <https://www.wikipedia.org/>
* Stack Overflow - <https://stackoverflow.com/>
* Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/> - we gather information on the news we get from our newsfeed.
* YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/> - we get information from informative channels we subscribed.

News

* Yahoo - <https://www.yahoo.com/> - through ABC News Network
* CNN - <https://edition.cnn.com/>
* NBC News - <https://www.nbcnews.com/>
* BBC - <https://www.bbc.com/news>
* USA Today - <https://www.usatoday.com/>

Portal

* Allianz - <https://www.liferay.com/resource?title=allianz> – General insurance company.
* West band - <https://www.liferay.com/resource?title=west-bend> – Mutual insurance company.
* Av Med - <https://www.liferay.com/resource?title=avmed> – health care insurance.
* Med impact - <https://www.liferay.com/resource?title=medimpact> – Pharmacy benefit management.
* Council of Europe - <https://www.liferay.com/resource?title=council-of-europe> – Created for the protection of human rights, democracy.

1. Guidelines for evaluating the value of a website

These criteria help us to evaluate websites on a firm basis:

* Authority – the person, institution or agency responsible for the website.
* Purpose – the information presented on the site should be clear.
* Coverage – evaluates whether the topics are covered with depth, comprehension or the opposite.
* Currency – refers to how current is the information on the site is; and also how often is the site updated.
* Objectivity – helps us to be aware of sites that contain biased information.
* Accuracy – checks the reliability of the information, for instance, we could check if the author of that information is from a trusted institution.

So I wanted to evaluate Stack Overflow and Facebook based on these guidelines above. Starting from Stack Overflow it is an authorized question and answer platform. As its name indicates its purpose, it is used for question an answering. We raise some questions there and it is answered where answers that are considered to be good after a firm evaluation will be provided to you so there is a little chance of biased information while giving you the most accurate answer as possible.

Moving on to Facebook, it is owned by Mark Zuckerberg with a purpose of communicating people from all over the world. In its news feed topics pop up and can be thoroughly covered and information is update almost in every instant and by following or liking the pages of trusted organizations, we will be able to get an accurate information.