* Rise of the internet
  + In the late 1950s, researchers around the world worked computers similar to the one in the picture. These were room-sized computers and were unable to communicate with each other
    - Researchers got the idea to connect their computers so that multiple computers and research teams can work together
  + Throughout the late fifties and early sixties, research computers were connected to form ARPANET, the first web of computers
  + The internet hit the commercial market in the nineties, and since then, over half the world’s population has become connected to the internet ("Internet and Globalization.“)
* Possible Issues
  + Because so many people are connected to the internet, there are people that want to use it for malicious purposes
    - Hackers try to steal data and financial information
    - People use the internet to purchase illegal goods/services
    - Internet vandalism, editing the contents of a webpage without permission from the owner
* Social Problems
  + People give up their privacy to access digital services
    - Many people are against big tech companies holding user data, but feel forced to use the services offered to stay productive
  + Decreased wait times
    - This leads to lower patience and ability for delayed gratification
    - People are now more likely to give up on longer or harder tasks if they don’t immediately provide positive feedback
* Political Ramifications
  + Election meddling
    - Countries try to sway elections to either elect a favorable candidate or a puppet leader
    - Recent US election cycles have shown attempts to sway results by Russia and China
  + Censorship
    - Some countries censor information to stay in control and quell uprisings
    - China has the biggest internet censorship campaign, known as the great firewall of China.
      * This is essentially an alternate version of the internet that the Chinese Communist Party can have full control over
* Emotional Effects
  + Social Media
    - Many people compare themselves to an ideal that they cannot achieve
    - People’s social media pages are crafted to show only their strengths with none of their flaws
      * When people compare themselves to other’s social media pages, they are comparing themselves to an unrealistic standard
  + Online Learning
    - With online learning suddenly becoming a major part of how we learn, it brings with it some difficulties that can usually be avoided in a classroom setting
      * It is a lot harder for teachers to give individual attention to all students, which may lead to worse grades
        + These lower grades then start a feedback loop of lower grades and lower motivation
* How can you help
  + Protect your privacy online
    - Use an adblocker to prevent online tracking by advertisement companies
      * In some cases, these companies will even be able to see exactly how you navigate a page
    - Occasionally clean your cookies on your browser
      * These are small text files that websites use to store information
        + Some cookies are fine, and simply store login info for later use, but others are used to store personal information such as browsing history and habits
  + Be aware of issues such as Election meddling and censorship and be able to identify them
    - Censorship is the easiest to identify, as it is usually characterized by not being able to visit a page or not being able to see information online
  + Manage your social media habits
    - If you find yourself regularly comparing yourself to other’s social media profiles, it might be time for a break