

# Internet access then and now

READING

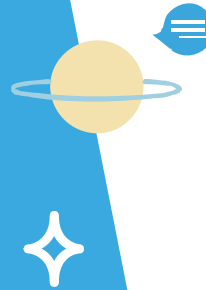
LEVEL  
Advanced

NUMBER  
C1\_4045R\_EN

LANGUAGE  
English



lingoda





## Goals

- Can read and understand a complex text about the history of internet access.
- Can discuss the widespread nature of internet access and explain its development.





Do you remember the **formative days** of the internet?



Perhaps the **dial-up tone of the modem** fills you with **nostalgia** for a time when the internet seemed a much more **innocent** place.



In a few short decades the internet has **evolved at an astonishing pace**. Let's try to keep up!





## Internet access

**Discuss how many objects in your home are capable of being connected to the internet. Does this surprise you?**



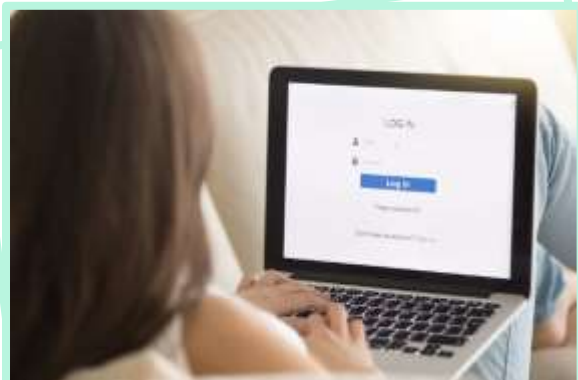


## Brainstorm

**The internet has had an enormous impact on our way of life.  
Write a list of the areas and industries affected by its inception.  
Share your ideas.**

lifestyle

communication



A vertical sheet of lined paper with a blue margin line on the left and punch holes along the left edge, intended for writing brainstorming ideas.



## Vocabulary



All you need to access the internet with **dial-up** is a modem.

Richard, in his **omniscience**, knows everything that happens in this company.



I remember running through fields of wheat, **unfettered** and free.

Roberta **prised** the keys from David's fingers.





## Vocabulary



The fearsome Minotaur lies in wait at the centre of the **labyrinth**.

Wilson doesn't use computers – he is a **technophobe**.



Your commentary was good, but it really only explored one **facet** of the match.

The industry has been **monopolised** by two companies leaving it in dire need of innovation.



**TCP-IP**

**internet service provider**

**TCP-IP** is an internet protocol which allows computers to communicate in the same language and be able to work together on a network.  
An **internet service provider** connects customers to a network .



Oh wow, your **internet service provider** has some really good deals!





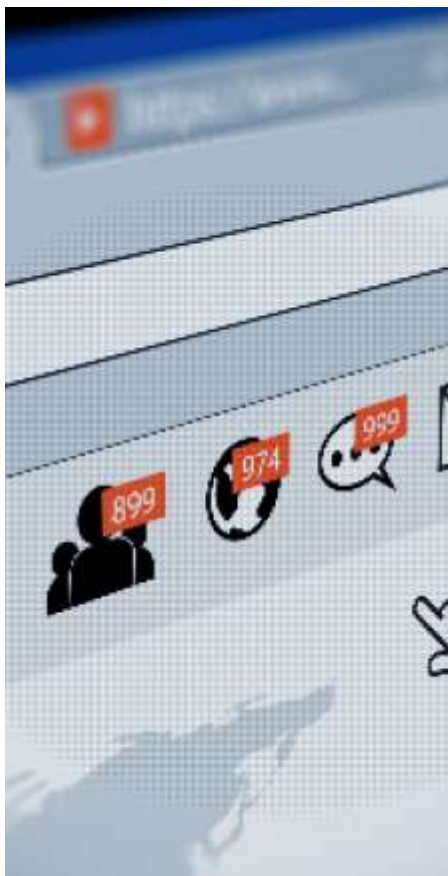
## Internet use

**How many hours per day do you spend on the internet?  
What do you think is the average?**





## Internet access then and now



Look around your home and count the number of objects which have the ability to connect to the internet. You might be surprised at just how many gadgets you find. If you are old enough it might be possible to remember the first home computers able to connect to the internet via **dial-up**. The most revolutionary and far-reaching network in the world has come a long way on its journey from the days of Netscape to its present **omnipresence**.



## Internet access then and now

The foundations of the internet were laid by the US Department of Defense. Known as ARPANET, it was initially used as an innovative way to support research goals between universities and laboratories. Based on packet switching, the communication network's potential was quickly realised. As it grew over the following decades ARPANET's engineers sculpted a range of innovations which are still used today.





## Internet access then and now

By the middle of the 1970s a range of other networks similar to ARPANET were emerging. As each network's packets were formatted differently, connectivity for all was nearly impossible. The solution was the implementation of **TCP-IP**, an internet protocol that formatted the packets in the same way, allowing all computers to speak the same language. The adoption of **TCP-IP** which is still used today, was the formal birth of the internet as we know it.





## The growth of the internet

**Why do you think the internet grew so quickly?  
What aspects of the practice might have contributed to its  
success?**

what does it offer  
for humans?

how has it shifted  
the way our  
society works?



A vertical sheet of lined paper with a blue margin line on the left and a series of horizontal lines for writing.



## Choose the best answer

1. The first home computers connected to the internet through a modem via \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. TCP-IP                      b. ARPANET                      c. dial-up                      d. social media

2. The internet's foundations were laid by the US Department of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Technology                      b. Energy                      c. Justice                      d. Defense

3. ARPANET's network used a technique called \_\_\_\_\_ to allow computers to communicate over great distances.

- a. partial package                      b. cereal packet                      c. packet switching                      d. pachyderm

4. The implementation of \_\_\_\_\_ allowed all computers on a network to speak the same language.

- a. TCP-IP                      b. dial-up                      c. modems                      d. ARPANET



## Tell your teacher

**Cast your mind back to your first memory of the internet.  
Discuss your experiences. What was your initial impression?  
Try to be as descriptive as possible.**





## Internet access then and now



While the technology developed **unfettered**, it took a long time for the internet to become publicly accessible. At its inception, ARPANET's network was made up of four computers and for many years was a network **restricted** for use by certain universities and corporations.

By 1987 there were twenty thousand computers connected. At this moment the internet was still used solely for matters of research. It was not until 1989 that **internet service providers** first began connecting people to the internet and commercial traffic began to flow.





## Internet access then and now

In the early 1990s the floodgates had been **prised** open – people could now access the internet from their home computer by placing a phone call to the network through a **modem**. By today's standards **dial-up** Internet was incredibly slow. The **World Wide Web**, made public in 1993, was the final major component of the modern internet.

The Web made navigating the daunting **labyrinth** of the internet easier with the useful tool of **hypertext**. It allowed surfers on the web to easily find their way around by using **hyperlinks** and **URLs**. With a browser, even **technophobes** could navigate the brave new digital world with ease.





## Choose the best answer

1. By 1987 there were \_\_\_\_\_ connected to the internet.

- a. 10,000                      b. 20,000                      c. 15,000                      d. 25,000

2. The commercial floodgates were \_\_\_\_\_ open in the early 1990s.

- a. prised                      b. pristine                      c. privacy                      d. privation

3. Navigating the web was made easier with hypertext, enabling users to use \_\_\_\_\_ with ease.

- a. browsers                      b. bowzers                      c. browsing                      d. browbeaters

4. ISPs first started connecting people to the internet in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. 1988                      b. 1991                      c. 1989                      d. 1990



## Create sentences

**Discuss your understanding of the words below and make sentences using each of them. Try to be as detailed as possible, you can include your own experiences of the internet.**



TCP-IP

internet service  
providers

prised

labyrinth

technophobe

unfettered

hypertext

URL

dial-up



## 90s email!

**Write an email to a friend. It's 1998 and you've just connected to the internet for the first time. Describe the novelty of the Web and don't forget to explain what email is. You could give them instructions as to how they can reply to you.**

— □ ×

To: wilson@fakemail.com

Subject: Welcome to the internet!

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Give your opinion

**In 2008, one social media platform had 100 million users. Ten years later, they have almost 1 billion.**

The explosive growth of the internet shows no signs of slowing down. What does this mean for humans?

What do you think this means for the future of the internet? Can we cope with its growth?





## How to...

**It's the late 1990s. Everyone is on the World Wide Web!  
Your grandmother just got her first home computer, but is having trouble using her browser.**

**Unfortunately, she lives abroad. Write her a letter explaining how to use the World Wide Web. Be as descriptive as possible and include any tips of websites she could visit to try out her new skills.**

A large rectangular box with a thin black border, containing several horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and cover most of the box's height, leaving a small margin at the top and bottom. This is intended for the student to write a letter to their grandmother.



## Ever evolving

**Describe some of the ways that the internet has changed and evolved since the 1990s.**





## Internet access then and now



The 1990s heralded a boom – billions of euros flooded into the internet as investors saw potential profit in the influx of new users connected together for the first time. Waves of start-ups emerged, but many went bankrupt in the dot-com crash at the turn of the millennium. From the ruins of these failed start-ups rose the major players who wield monumental influence in the world of the internet today. At this time the possibilities of the internet seemed colossal.

In the twenty years since then, the internet has become part of the fabric of the modern world – our systems and life as we know it are reliant on its smooth operation and presence to function.





## Internet access then and now

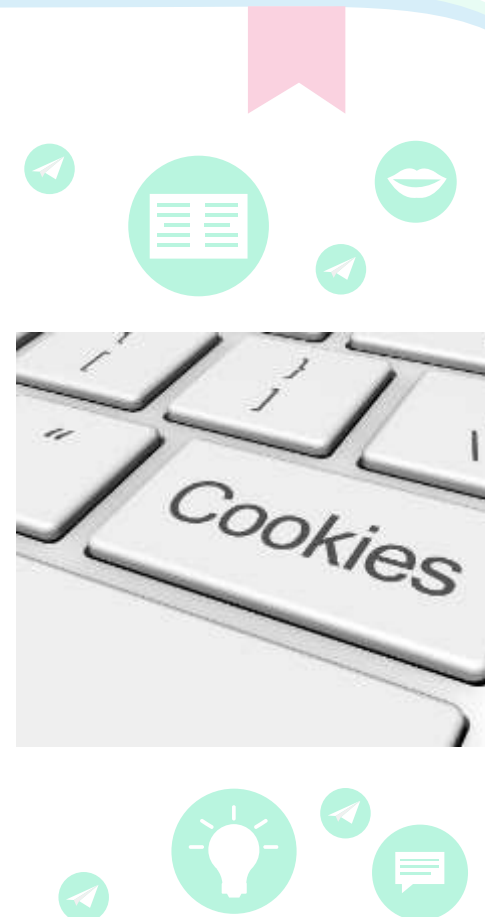
The wide-eyed naivety and idealism that characterised this period has given way to a more measured approach to online activity. The growing awareness that our every move is tracked, and our digital traces are being collected by corporate giants in the form of **big data** has prompted arguments about privacy and the costs of the conveniences it offers.





## Internet access then and now

Widespread internet access has had a transformative effect on every **facet** of society. Driven by the growth of social media platforms, people share more about themselves than ever before. However, the open model of the internet that has allowed this to flourish is under threat. The overhaul of **net neutrality** laws by the US Congress threaten to replace the open and democratic Utopia promised by the idealists of the past with a **monopolised** model where companies will have greater control over what net-users can see and do online. The fate of the internet seems to be at a crossroads – open possibility or a **monopoly** of control?





Are we over-reliant on the internet? Give your opinion in response to the statement below.

**...our systems  
and life as we  
know it are  
reliant on its  
smooth  
operation and  
presence to  
function**



Is there an alternative?



Could the internet really  
'go down'?



## Omnipresence

**These days everything is done over the internet.  
Discuss some of the things that would happen if the internet  
went out for 48 hours.**



food

transport  
networks

financial  
markets

human  
behaviour



## Awareness or ignorance?



“The wide-eyed naivety and idealism that characterised this period has given way to a more measured approach to online activity”

Do you agree with this statement?

Write a brief response, answering the question below.

Are most people measured and guarded about their online activity and what they share?

## Net neutrality



**Net neutrality** deems that ISPs are mandated to treat all information online the same and can not discriminate or charge differently depending on content or user. **Net neutrality** is the principle that underpins the open model of the internet.



## Discuss the scenarios below and how they violate the principle of net neutrality.

ISPs act as gatekeepers, controlling which sites load quickly, slowly or not at all

An ISP slows down a user's internet speed as they don't pay as much as another user

An ISP blocks access to applications or content from competitors

Some pages are blocked from view from unsubscribing customers

Some file sharing websites are censored by an ISP

News websites with opinions differing to that of the ISP's owner are filtered out of searches





## History of the Internet

**Write a short report charting the progression of the internet to the present time.**

**Use some of the knowledge you've learned from this lesson.  
Observe the guidelines below – aim for 100 words for each category.**

The birth of the Internet/ARPANET.

Commercially available to the public in the early 1990s.

Widespread internet access and the growth of social media.

A vertical notepad with a blue binding on the left and ten horizontal lines for writing.





## Thoughts?

**What is your  
prediction for  
the future of  
the internet?**



Net neutrality is upheld – the internet continues to be open?



The internet becomes a pay to use service – ISPs will charge for premium access.



## Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!

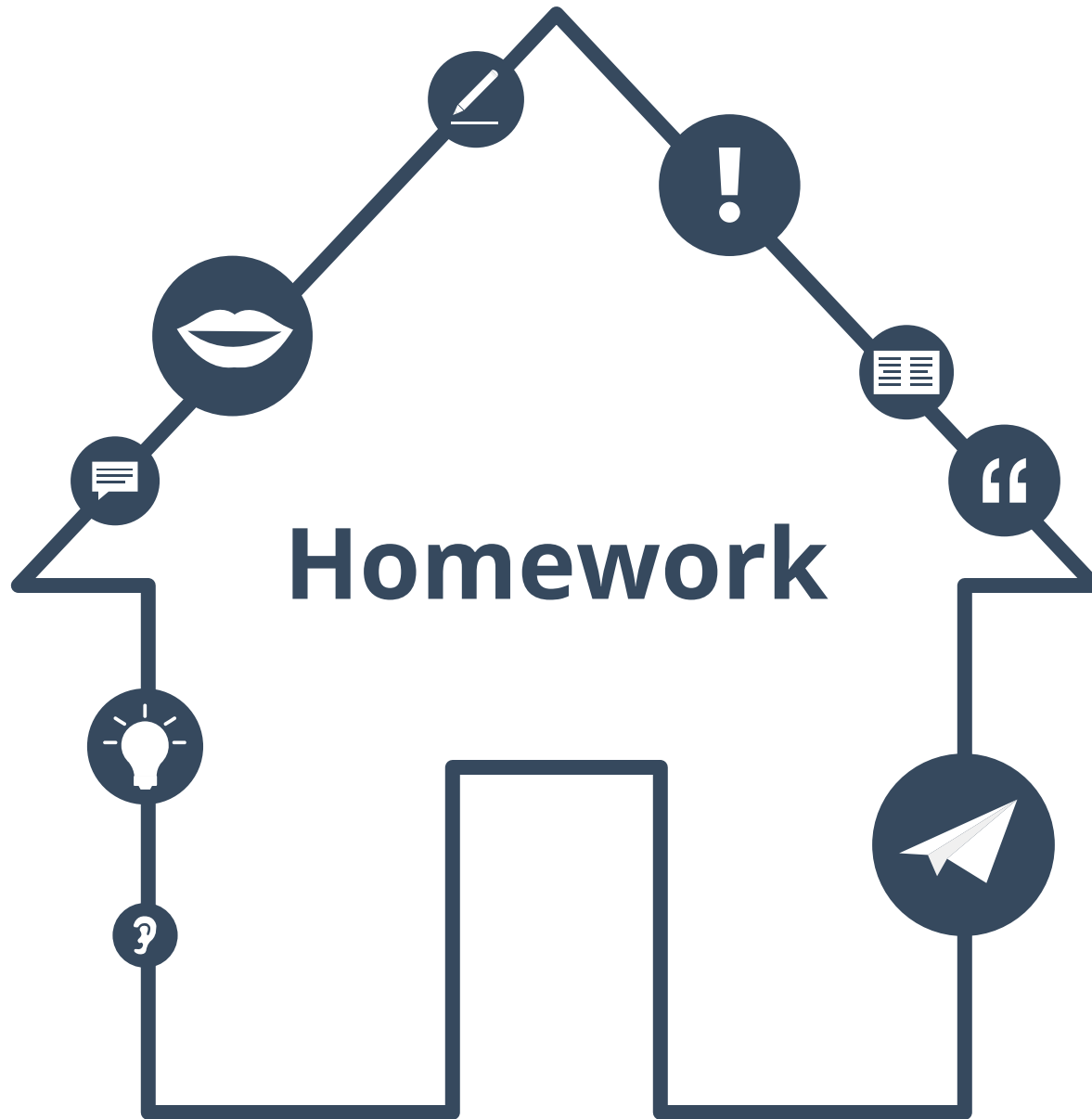




## Answer key

**Activity p.14**  
1C, 2D, 3C, 4A

**Activity p.18**  
20 000, prised, browsers, 1989





## Opinion

Write a paragraph summarising your understanding of net neutrality.

What is your opinion on net neutrality?  
Should the internet remain open?





## Flashcards

**Create flashcards for the new vocabulary in today's lesson.  
Ensure you write the definition on the back of the card.**





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