

WEEK 6 – The Internet and the World Wide Web

I. The Internet Basics

The Internet is a massive global network that connects millions of computers and devices around the world. It uses the TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) suite to allow communication and data exchange between devices. The Internet serves as the foundation for many services, including email, file transfer, online gaming, cloud computing, and the World Wide Web.

Main Components of the Internet:

- **Internet Service Provider (ISP):** A company that provides users access to the Internet. Examples: PLDT, Globe, Converge.
- **Domain Name System (DNS):** A naming system that translates human-friendly domain names (like google.com) into numerical IP addresses that computers use to identify each other.
- **Broadband Connections:** High-speed Internet access provided through wired or wireless means.

Types of Broadband Connections:

1. **Wired Connections:** Use physical cables for stable and fast connections.
 - **DSL (Digital Subscriber Line):** Uses telephone lines for Internet.
 - **Cable Internet:** Delivered through coaxial cables.
 - **Fiber-optic Internet:** Offers the fastest and most reliable speed, using light signals through glass fibers.
2. **Wireless Connections:** Use radio waves or satellites to provide connectivity.

Wi-Fi: Provides local wireless access within homes or offices.

Mobile Broadband (4G/5G): Internet through cellular networks.

Satellite Internet: Ideal for rural or remote areas with limited wired infrastructure.

II. The World Wide Web (WWW)

The **World Wide Web**, often called simply “the Web,” is a system of interlinked documents and multimedia that can be accessed through the Internet using web browsers. It operates using protocols such as HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) and HTTPS (secure version).

- The Web allows users to access websites, watch videos, read news, shop online, and engage in social networking.

Examples of Web Browsers: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari.

Examples of Web Services: Facebook, YouTube, Wikipedia, Google Search.

Difference between the Internet and the Web:

- The **Internet** is the physical infrastructure — the network of cables, servers, and devices.
- The **World Wide Web** is a service that runs on top of the Internet — the collection of websites and pages we access through browsers.

In short, the Internet connects computers, while the Web connects people through information.

III. Types of Websites

Websites can be classified based on their purpose and audience. The most common types include:

1. **Informational Websites** – Provide factual information or news updates.
Examples: Wikipedia, government websites, blogs.
2. **Commercial Websites** – Created by businesses to promote or sell products and services.
Examples: Lazada, Shopee, Amazon.
3. **Educational Websites** – Provide learning materials, tutorials, or online courses.
Examples: Coursera, DepEd website, Google Classroom.
4. **Social Media Websites** – Allow users to interact, share posts, and connect socially.
Examples: Facebook, Instagram, TikTok.
5. **Entertainment Websites** – Offer music, games, or videos for enjoyment.
Examples: YouTube, Netflix, Spotify.

IV. Evaluating Digital Sources

In the digital age, not all information online is accurate or credible. To determine if a website is trustworthy, consider the following criteria:

- **Authority** – Who is the author or publisher? Are they experts in the field?
- **Accuracy** – Is the content fact-checked, supported by evidence, and free from bias?
- **Currency** – Is the information recent or regularly updated?
- **Purpose** – What is the goal of the site? To inform, entertain, persuade, or sell something?