



THE INTERNET AND WEB

INTRODUCTION | INTERNET & WEB TRIVIA

- 1 How much do you know about the internet and the web? Take the quiz to find out. Using your mobile phone or laptop, connect to kahoot.it and insert the game PIN shown on the screen.

VOCABULARY & LISTENING PRACTICE | HOW DOES THE INTERNET AND THE WEB WORK?

- 2 Now that you are familiar with certain trivia regarding the internet and the web, let's turn to more important matters. Can you answer the following questions?

- 1 What is the internet and what is the web in fact?

.....

.....

- 2 What is the main difference between the internet and the web? Try to explain.

.....

.....

- 3 How does the internet 'work'? (*think of how devices are connected to the internet, how files are accessed and transferred over the internet, etc.*)

.....

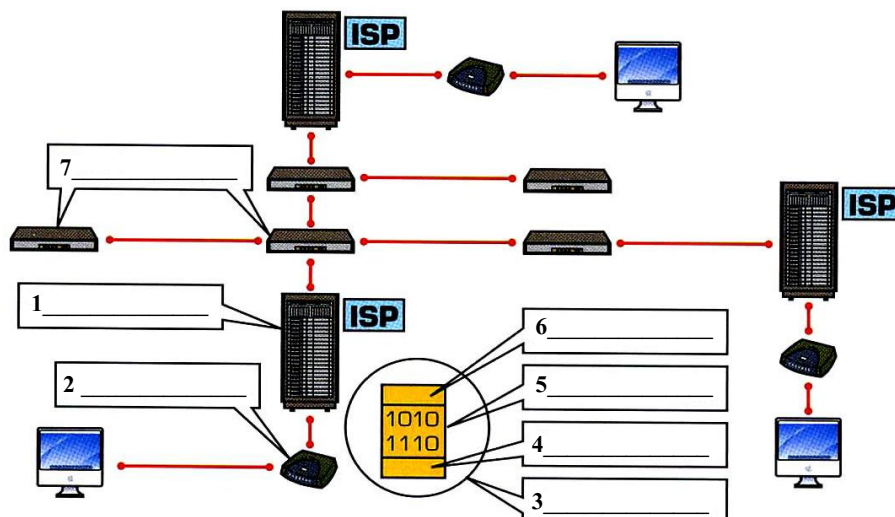
.....

- 3 You are about to listen to a short recording in which the difference between the internet and the web will be broken down. Before listening to the recording, read the statements in 1 -5 below and try to guess whether they are true or false.

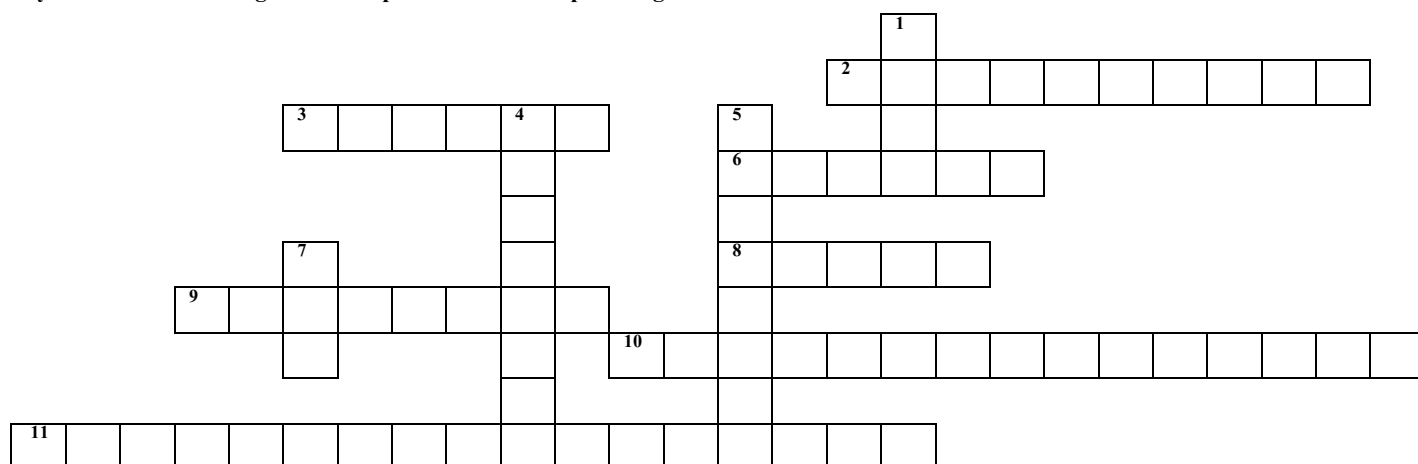
- 1 The World Wide Web was invented before the internet was. T / F
- 2 The internet was ordered by the United States' government in the 1960s. T / F
- 3 Chat clients, file sharing services and phone services are not directly tied to the web. T / F
- 4 The world's first web browser was invented in 1980 by Sir Tim Berners-Lee. T / F
- 5 More than 10 percent of the world's total population has access to the internet. T / F

- 4 Work in pairs, A and B. Read the text you have been handed and then take turns asking and answering questions in order to complete the gaps in the text.

- 5 Using the text as your starting point label the diagram below with the appropriate terms.



6 Try to solve the following crossword puzzle with the help of the given clues.



ACROSS

- 2 a name that identifies one or more computers on a network
- 3 a group of computers and devices on a network
- 6 a computer that determines, on a local basis, which route packets will take to their destination
- 8 the basic communication protocol that is the foundation of the internet
- 9 a personal computer or user workstation that is hooked up to a network
- 10 a unit of data that is routed between an origin and a destination on the internet
- 11 an interconnecting circuit between two or more locations for the purpose of transmitting and receiving data

DOWN

- 1 a computer system that stores data which is accessed by a user working at a remote location
- 4 a network with an organisation accessible only by the organisation's members, employees, or others with authorisation
- 5 an agreed-upon format for transmitting data between two devices
- 7 the global address of documents and other resources on the world wide web

READING & VOCABULARY | THE EFFECTS OF THE INTERNET

7 Before reading the text below, reflect for a second on the following questions:

- 1 In what ways do you think the internet has affected our lives in general? (*e.g. communication, access to information, social media, etc.*)
.....
.....
- 2 In what ways do you think internet use can influence or change how people think and learn? Would you say that, from this perspective, the effects of the internet on our cognitive abilities have been rather negative or rather positive?
.....
.....
- 3 Do you think that the widespread use of social media and the internet has affected the way we communicate and interact with each other offline? Has the impact been mostly positive or negative in your view?
.....
.....

8 Read the passages below, and match each of the opinions listed in 1-10 to the appropriate passage.

IS THE INTERNET CHANGING OUR LIVES?

A Sarah

The internet often tells us what we think we know, spreading misinformation and nonsense while it's at it. It can substitute surface for depth, imitation for authenticity, and its passion for recycling would surpass the most committed environmentalist. In 10 years, I've seen thinking habits change dramatically: if information is not immediately available via a Google search, people are often completely at a loss. And of course, a Google search merely provides the most popular answer, not necessarily the most accurate. Nevertheless, there is no question, to my mind, that the access to raw information provided by the internet is unparalleled. We've all read that the internet sounds the death knell of reading, but people read online constantly - we just call it surfing now. What's being read is changing, often for the worse; but it is also true that the internet increasingly provides a treasure trove of rare documents and images, and as long as we have free access to it, then the internet can certainly be a force for educational wisdom.

B Geoff

Sometimes I think my ability to concentrate is being nibbled away by the internet. In those quaint days before the internet, once you made it to your desk, there wasn't much to do. Now you sit down and there's a universe of possibilities - many of them obscurely relevant to the

work you should be getting on with - to tempt you. To think that I can be sitting here, trying to write something about the Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman, and, a moment later, on the merest whim while I'm in Swedish mode, can be watching a clip from a Swedish documentary about the jazz musician Don Cherry - that is a miracle (albeit one with a very potent side-effect, namely that it's unlikely I'll ever have the patience to sit through an entire Bergman film again). Then there's another thing. From the age of 16, I got into the habit of compiling detailed indexes in the backs of books of poetry and drama. So if there was a quote I needed for an assignment, I would spend hours going through my books, seeking it out. Now I just google key words.

C Colin

It's curious that some of the most vociferous critics of the internet - those who predict that it will produce generations of couch potatoes - are the very sort of people who are benefiting most from this wonderful, liberating, organic extension of the human mind. They are academics, scientists, scholars and writers, who fear that the extraordinary technology they use every day is a danger to the unsophisticated. They underestimate the capacity of the human mind to capture and capitalise on new ways of storing and transmitting information. When I was at school I learned by heart great swathes of science textbooks. What a waste of my neurons, all clogged up with knowledge and rules that I can now obtain with the click of the mouse. At its best, the internet is no threat to our minds. It is another liberating extension of them, as significant as books, the abacus or the pocket calculator.

D Ian

The evidence that the internet has a deleterious effect on the brain is zero. In fact, by looking at the way human beings gain knowledge in general, you would probably argue the opposite. The opportunity to have multiple sources of information at your fingertips, and to dip into these rather than trawl laboriously through a whole book, is highly conducive to the acquisition of knowledge. It is being argued by some that the information coming into the brain from the internet is the wrong kind of information. It's too short, it doesn't have enough depth, so there is a qualitative loss. It's an interesting point, but the only way you could argue it is to say that people are misusing the internet. It's a bit like saying to someone who's never seen a car before and has no idea what it is: "Why don't you take it for a drive and you'll find out?" If you seek information on the internet like that, there's a good chance you'll have a crash. But that's because your experience has yet to grasp what a car is.

Which person gives each of these opinions on the internet?

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Reservations about the benefits of universal access to it are unfounded. | 1 | |
| 2 | It excels in its ability to disseminate facts. | 2 | |
| 3 | Its power to sidetrack us can be both positive and negative. | 3 | |
| 4 | It assists learning by exposing people to a wider range of ideas than was previously possible. | 4 | |
| 5 | Much of the material on it is not original. | 5 | |
| 6 | It enables us to follow up on ideas that suddenly occur to us. | 6 | |
| 7 | It is only with time and practice that we can make the best use of the internet. | 7 | |
| 8 | The quality of material on it is questionable. | 8 | |
| 9 | It still requires people to process the written word. | 9 | |
| 10 | It has reduced the need to memorise information. | 10 | |

9 Work with a partner, and exchange opinions on the sentences above. Do you agree with what the speakers said?

10 Match the following words / expressions (1-6) from the passage above to their definitions.

- | | | | |
|---|----------------|---|---|
| 1 | death knell | a | a collection of valuable, interesting, or useful things; |
| 2 | treasure trove | b | to slowly reduce something; |
| 3 | nibbled away | c | blocked so that little or nothing can pass through; |
| 4 | vociferous | d | an event or situation that is a sign of the end of something; |
| 5 | clogged up | e | harmful, often in a subtle but unexpected way; |
| 6 | deleterious | f | expressing his / her opinion loudly and with force; |

VOCABULARY | ACADEMIC ENGLISH

11 Choose the correct words in *italics*. Then complete the tables with the words from the boxes.

- 1 There have been a number of claims (1) *with regard to* / *regarding* / *to be precise* the Internet. It is a great tool for information-sharing and some search engines, (2) *notably* / *namely* / *in terms of* Google, have long been household names.

<i>regarding</i>	<i>in terms of</i>	<i>notably</i>	<i>namely</i>
<i>in particular</i>	<i>with regard to</i>	<i>to be precise</i>	

Introducing a topic	Being specific

- 2 Originally, the internet was used by academics. (3) *Nevertheless, / However, / Furthermore*, criminals recognized its usefulness immediately. The internet crosses international boundaries. (4) *What's more / However, / Furthermore*, it allows anonymity.

<i>furthermore</i>	<i>nevertheless</i>	<i>on the other hand</i>	<i>in addition</i>
<i>what's more</i>	<i>and yet</i>	<i>however</i>	

Contrast	Saying more

- 3 It's necessary to (5) *hint at / highlight / underline* some of the problems: besides various scams, the music industry's sales have suffered because of piracy on the Web. We can't be sure but reasonable estimates would (6) *suggest / focus on / hint at* further losses in the near future.

<i>highlight</i>	<i>hint (at)</i>	<i>imply</i>	<i>point out</i>	<i>emphasize</i>
<i>infer</i>	<i>stress</i>	<i>underline</i>	<i>focus on</i>	<i>suggest</i>

Verbs of direct focus	Verbs that focus indirectly

- 4 If we try to (7) *evaluate / appraise / generate* the internet's effect, it is possible to *assess / formulate / construct* a balanced thesis: it has great benefits because it is free and open, and drawbacks in that it makes crime simpler.

<i>generate</i>	<i>assess</i>	<i>construct</i>
<i>evaluate</i>	<i>appraise</i>	<i>formulate</i>

Verbs of judging	Verbs which mean 'create'

- 5 (9) *To sum up, / In conclusion, / In chronological order*, the Internet has become a tool for good and bad deeds, just like all other technology.

<i>to sum up</i>	<i>for X days / hours running</i>	<i>in order of + (age, importance, etc.)</i>
<i>in alphabetical / chronological order</i>	<i>in conclusion</i>	

Arranging data	Finishing

WRITING | INTRODUCTION TO DISCURSIVE ESSAY

- 12 In A-C below you will find a brief description of the different types of essays used in English. Can you guess what type of essay is being described?

- _____ essays that present both sides of an issue, discussing points for and against a particular topic;
- _____ essays that present the writer's personal opinion concerning the topic, supported by reasons and / or examples;
- _____ in which problems associated with a particular issue or situation are analysed and possible solutions are put forward, together with any expected results or consequences;

13 Study the paragraph plans below and answer the questions that follow:

PLAN A

Introduction

P1: *state the topic and your opinion*

Main body

P 2, 3 & 4: *present your viewpoint with reasons and examples*

P 5: *discuss possible opposing viewpoint with reasons and examples*

Conclusion

P6: *summarize / restate your opinion*

PLAN B

Introduction

P1: *state the problem(s) and its main cause(s) or effect(s)*

Main body

P 2 - 5: *suggest possible solutions to the problem, while discussing the expected results / consequences*

Conclusion

P6: *give a brief summary and present your opinion*

PLAN C

Introduction

P1: *state the topic without stating your opinion*

Main body

P 2 & 3: *arguments for, justified with reasons and examples*

P 4&5: *arguments against with reasons and examples*

Conclusion

P6: *give a balanced consideration or opinion*

- 1 Which plan do you think corresponds to each of the essay types from the exercise above?
- 2 Take a look at the possible plans above and highlight any differences you can notice between them in terms of structure.
- 3 Which plan would you choose for the following task:

WRITING TASK

You have been asked to write an essay giving your views on the following statement.

The more time people spend online, the less time they spend with real human beings. Some people say that instead of seeing the internet as a way of opening up new communication possibilities worldwide, we should be concerned about the effect this is having on social interaction.

- 3 Which paragraph plan would you choose and why if an essay contained the following words in the title?
 - *How far do you agree?*
 - *Discuss this statement.*
 - *To what extent do you think / agree ... ?*
 - *Give your opinion on ...*
 - *Write a balanced discussion on ...*
 - *Discuss the following statement and suggest what might be done to remedy the situation.*
 - *What are the advantages and disadvantages of ...*

14 Mark the following sentences as true (T) or false (F). Justify your answers.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 Each paragraph should begin with a topic sentence. | T / F |
| 2 Statistics can be referred to even if you are unsure of the source. | T / F |
| 3 You should always use formal language and impersonal style. | T / F |
| 4 Linking words should be used. | T / F |
| 5 You must give examples from your own life. | T / F |
| 6 You can use short, contracted forms. | T / F |
| 7 You can disagree with the essay title. | T / F |
| 8 You should only give your own opinion. | T / F |
| 9 The introductions should explain why the issue is under debate / controversial. | T / F |
| 10 You should never exceed the specified word limit. | T / F |

15 Read the three writing tasks below and underline the keywords in each.

WRITING TASK 1

In class, you have been discussing legal issues connected with internet use. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay on the advantages and disadvantages of people being fined for illegally downloading music and films.

Write your **essay**.

WRITING TASK 2

Your teacher has asked you to write an essay saying if you agree with the following statement.

The popularity of computers and the internet for chatting, downloading files, etc. is failing to equip young people with the IT skills that will be essential for them in their future jobs.

Write your **essay**.

WRITING TASK 3

In class, you have been discussing technology and leisure. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay on the following topic:

Since downloading became popular, sales of music CDs and cinema tickets have been in decline. To what extent has being able to download music and films revolutionized the way we spend our leisure time?

Write your **essay**.

16 Read the following student essay. Which task does the essay answer? What is the structure of the essay shown below?

The central role played in our lives by technology in general and the internet in particular is undeniable. Just a few years ago, it was unimaginable that we would be able to chat and see friends on the other side of the world, make, send and watch films from our bedrooms by a simple click of the mouse.

While the benefits of this revolution are well-known, some people feel that technology is turning us all into hermits who are happier on our own in front of a computer screen than in a room full of friends and colleagues. Personally, I feel that computers now offer us more ways to stay in touch with more people. But people still form most of their friendship in the same way now as they did a hundred years ago, for example at work or at school.

It has also been argued that because of the popularity of music and film downloads, the music and film industries are threatened. I do not believe this to be the case at all. While CD sales are down, sales of concert tickets are at an all-time high. And people can watch downloaded films together with friends, just as they might have gone to the cinema together a few years ago.

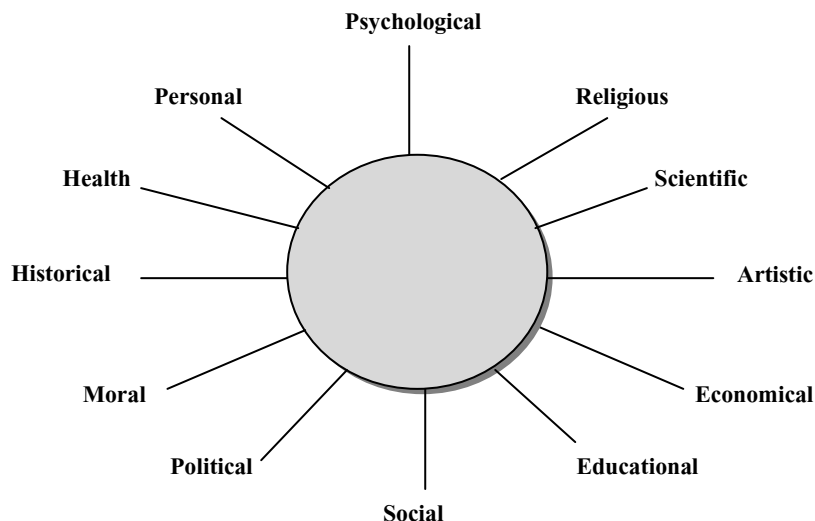
This is why I feel that technology has modified, but not revolutionized our leisure time.

WRITING TIP

Before you start writing, it might be useful to spend a couple of minutes 'brainstorming', or collecting and writing down ideas. You need to be able to demonstrate a knowledge of both general and specialist vocabulary. Try to strike a balance between language that is both natural and sophisticated, and try not to use too many basic phrases. For example, instead of talking about 'needing computers', you could say 'being totally dependent on information technology.'

17 Read the essay again and underline or highlight phrases for introducing opinions and useful phrases connected to the internet and technology.

18 Choose one of the writing tasks from above. Plan and write your answer in 200 - 250 words.



- when considering a topic, you may refer to the discussion clock, which will help you think of ideas when planning your essay;
- referring to the discussion clock is a useful “brainstorming technique, as it helps you examine a topic from various viewpoints and decide on ideas / points to include in your essay
- keep in mind that the topic may not relate to all the aspects presented in the discussion clock
- remember that for each viewpoint you have thought of, there is usually an opposing argument. This is the opposing argument when planning your essay.

1 Match each of the following viewpoints with the corresponding opposing argument.

Viewpoints		Opposing Arguments	
1	From a political point of view, space exploration enables super-powers to demonstrate their level of technical advancement.	a	However, it can be argued that the money would be better spent on alleviating the problems of developing countries.
2	From a scientific standpoint, space exploration has been responsible for rapid developments in materials and processes which have also been of benefit to people on earth.	b	Nevertheless, many sociologists argue that colonies in space would create more social problems than they would solve.
3	From an economic standpoint, the investment of time and money in space exploration could, in future, repay humanity many times over. The discovery of resources in outer space could be of great benefit to our planet.	c	On the other hand, some political analysts claim that the Space Race has led to unnecessary competition between nations and a consequent failure to cooperate and collaborate on international issues.
4	Regarding the social implications of space exploration, there are those who argue that the potential that other planets hold for colonization could prove to be the salvation of the human race.	d	Opponents argue that space technology is of limited use to society and that the research could be used more profitably to try to solve some of the more pressing problems we face.

2 Read the points below, and looking at the discussion clock identify the aspect each viewpoint relates to.

- As far as _____ is concerned, allowing cigarettes to be advertised is extremely damaging, since cigarette smoking causes cancer and heart problems, as well as affecting unborn babies.
- From a(n) _____ standpoint, it may be argued that the individual faces such problems as depression, anxiety and attempted suicide, as a result of the pressures of modern life.
- From a(n) _____ viewpoint, popular sports create jobs for a large number of people in addition to generating income for the state.
- As for the _____ aspect, allowing children at school to express themselves more freely would help them to develop their creative talents.
- With regard to _____ matters, the use of computers gives students a chance to increase their knowledge and develop their research skills.

(Extracted from: EVANS, Virginia. 2000. Successful Writing for Proficiency)