

SURFING THE WEB

FOCUS ON READING

I. Read the following text.

Just a century ago we didn't even know about computers and the Internet. But today we take them for granted and can't imagine our life without these inventions. I think that the Internet (or World Wide Web) is the greatest invention ever and it has made a significant impact on our lives.

Nowadays the Internet is affordable almost for anyone and it connects people all around the world. You can stay in touch with your friends, relatives and colleagues. Our modern life will stop without the net because it helps to make on-line business transactions, manage our bank accounts, pay our gas or electricity bills and send important e-mails, for example.

The Internet is the largest source of information. There are millions of Internet sites storing plenty of useful data about everything: science, history, psychology, sports, fashion, music, cooking and many other subjects. We can also download our favourite movies or songs, listen to radio channels or play games. Learning or practising foreign languages is possible with the Internet too.

The Internet saves our time and money. We can do on-line shopping choosing the desirable thing at the best price. And then we just click "Order the delivery". By the way, we can also sell various things in the net. We often don't need to go to the library: surfing the net can easily help us to find and open the book we need. Buying stamps and envelopes isn't required if you're going to send an e-mail. It takes just a few seconds to send an instant message by e-mail.

The Internet helps shy people or those with low-esteem to find each other on dating sites. Online chatting through social networking websites is more comfortable for Internet users with the lack of social skills.

In other words, we have a wide range of online activities which help us to get in touch with people, learn something new every day and be aware of all happening in the world. We have got used to this level of information accessibility due to which we feel more confident and free to express our viewpoint.

I am sure that the Internet has changed our life for the better. There is only one disadvantage about it: some people become rather addicted to it and spend all days long surfing the net, on-line dating or playing games. Over-using the net can be dangerous because new technology victims start neglecting their families, friends, work and real hobbies.

II. Are the following sentences true or false?

1. Thanks to the Internet you can be in touch with your friends.

2. Internet is a global world network, which has united people from different countries and of different backgrounds.
3. The Internet doesn't help shy people.
4. The Internet saves our time and money.
5. The Internet is not an important part of everyone's life.
6. The Internet is only for entertainment and games.
7. Over-using the net can be dangerous because new technology victims start neglecting their families, friends, work and real hobbies.
8. The Internet became an integral part of a life of each person. Now people cannot live a day without checking of mail and visiting their favourite sites.
9. The Internet has no disadvantages.
10. The Internet is the largest source of information.

III. Answer the following questions.

1. What are the advantages of the Internet?
2. What is the other name of the Internet?
3. How can the Internet help shy People?
4. Why is the Internet necessary in business?
5. What is the danger of excessive use of the Internet?
6. What can we find in the Internet?
7. What would our life be like without the Internet?
8. Is the Internet harmful or useful?
9. Why will our lives stop without the Internet?
10. Does the Internet help study?