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**TOPIC : INTERNET**

Internet is a global computer network providing a variety of information and communication facilities, consisting of interconnected networks using standardized communication protocols.

The **full form** of **INTERNET** is *Interconnected network* of the web servers worldwide. It is also known as World Wide Web.

**The internet has so many uses, some of which are;**

1. **Electronic mail:** At least 85% of the inhabitants of cyberspace send and receive e-mail. Some 20 million e-mail messages cross the Internet every week.
2. **Research.**
3. **Downloading files.**
4. **Discussion groups:** These include public groups, such as those on Usenet, and the private mailing lists that ListServ manages.
5. **Interactive games:** Who hasn’t tried to hunt down at least one game?
6. **Education and self-improvement:** On-line courses and workshops have found yet another outlet.
7. **Friendship and dating:** You may be surprised at the number of electronic “personals” that you can find on the World Wide Web.
8. **Electronic newspapers and magazines:** This category includes late-breaking news, weather, and sports. We’re likely to see this category leap to the top five in the next several years.
9. **Job-hunting:** Classified ads are in abundance, but most are for technical positions.
10. **Shopping:** It’s difficult to believe that this category even ranks. It appears that “cybermalls” are more for curious than serious shoppers.

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF INTERNET**

The **history of the Internet** has its origin in the efforts to build and interconnect [computer networks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_network) that arose from research and development in the [United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) and involved international collaboration, particularly with researchers in the [United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) and [France](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France).

The Internet's takeover of the global communication landscape was rapid in historical terms: it only communicated 1% of the information flowing through two-way [telecommunications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommunication%22%20%5Co%20%22Telecommunication)networks in the year 1993, 51% by 2000, and more than 97% of the telecommunicated information by 2007.Today, the Internet continues to grow, driven by ever greater amounts of online information, commerce, entertainment, and [social networking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_networking). However, the future of the global network may be shaped by regional differences.

**The Positive and Negative Effects of the Internet**

The internet is so popular nowadays that almost anyone uses it. It is accessible by almost any person who tries to connect to one of its central, main networks. Moreover, it can be accessed by users of any age and condition. But what are the positives and negatives aspects of the internet?

**The Internet has some great positive effects. Some of these include:**

* Internet search engines are the best information retrieval systems available. They bring any kind of information for internet users, from local restaurants to international news.
* The Internet provides some of the most effective means of communication among people, including online  emailing and instant messaging.
* The Internet makes possible for business and comp anies to do transactions with their clients and customers.
* Thanks to the internet, people can take action and avoid adverse circumstances. For instance, hurricane, storms and accidents can be tracked through the internet.

**Sometimes, the internet can have negative effects, including:**

* Illegal or inappropriate materials can be found in the internet.
* Some people in recent years have illegally downloaded music or other copyrighted material for free. This action has had a negative impact on the music industry and has led to several lawsuits.
* The addiction to online social networks can disturb a person's way of living and professional activity.
* Some criminals use the internet for spreading computer viruses or even intercepting credit card or bank details for spurious purposes.

## Advantages of the Internet;

### Communication:

The main advantage of the internet is the faster communication than any other device. It’s an instant process. Communication in the form of video calls, emails, etc. is possible using the internet.

### Information:

The internet is the source of knowledge. One can get information about almost everything. It is easily accessed with sources giving you the option of additional knowledge on the subject matters

### Learning:

The internet has now become a part of education. [**Education like homeschooling**](http://www.advantages-disadvantages.co/education/) is easily carried out using the internet. Teachers can upload their teaching videos on the internet and are accessed by people across the world which is helpful for all students. The marks are also released on the internet since, releasing mark for the whole institution in notice boards will create chaos.

### Social network:

Social networking is the sharing of information with people across the world. Apart from being an entertainment website, it has many uses. Any job vacancy, emergency news, ideas, etc. can be shared on the website and the information gets passed on quickly to a wide area. Also, [**social networking websites**](http://www.advantages-disadvantages.co/social-networking/) are used to easy communications. For example, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are some popular networking sites.

## Disadvantages of the Internet

### Spam:

The unnecessary emails, advertisements, etc. sometimes are said to be spam because they have the ability to slow down the system and make the users to face lots of problems. Spam emails create confusion as important emails are also stored along with them.

### Virus attacks:

The malware or virus threats are so deadly that affects the system to a greater extend. It immediately deletes all important files and finally, the system ends up crashing. The virus attack is possible in three ways. One it attacks selected files. Two, it harms the executable boot files and most dangerous of all is the macro virus which has the ability to replicate and expand to all parts of files.