55 Email and the Internet

A Using email

Think about the way you use email.

- How often do you **check your email** [look to see if you have any messages]?
- How many emails do you send a week? Are they all **essential** [important/necessary]?
- How many emails do you get every week? Do you read them **immediately** [without waiting]?
- How quickly do you **reply to** [answer] the emails you receive?
- Do you **delete** emails **regularly** [remove them from your computer often]?
- Do you get much **spam** [emails that you do not want, usually adverts; also called **junk mail**]?
- Have you got **anti-virus software** [a program that stops a virus entering your computer]?
- How often do you send or receive **attachments**?



Language help

In English an email address may be written as pd@freeserve.co.uk, but we say it like this: pd **at** freeserve **dot** co **dot** uk.

B Getting started on the Internet

To go **on the Internet,** you need an **ISP** (Internet service provider) that will **connect** [join or link] your computer to the Internet and give you **access to** [the ability to use] email and other services. When you **go online** [use the Internet], you can then send and receive emails, or you can **browse** the Internet [look at websites]; you do this using a **browser** such as Internet Explorer or Firefox. Many **websites** also have **links**: if you **click** on a link, it will take you to a different website, or move you from one part of the website to another.

C Using the Internet

Many people now have Internet **access** and Internet use is changing all the time. These are common uses.



- Students **search** the Internet [look for information on the Internet; also **do an Internet search**] to help with their studies.
- People **download** [copy onto their computer; *opp* **upload**] information, pictures, music, **video clips** [small parts of a video recording], etc.
- People buy books, clothes and food online, book their holidays online, take out insurance online, etc. People go to a website, select the **item** [product, e.g. a book] they want and click **add to basket/bag**. When they have finished shopping they go to **checkout** and pay for their items, usually with a credit card.
- Some people have a personal website to provide news about a particular subject, or just write about events in their life. These are called **blogs**, and people who write them are **bloggers**.
- Some people just like to spend hours **surfing the web** [looking at different websites].
- Some people spend a lot of time on **social networking sites** [places on the Internet where you can have a discussion with other people, e.g. Facebook, Twitter, etc.]. On these sites people **post** comments [leave messages] to their friends.
- Some people do a lot of **instant messaging** [send and receive messages in real time].

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises



55.1 **Match the words on the left with the words on the right.**

1 go	[b]	a the web
2 do	[ ]	b online
3 surf	[ ]	c emails
4 delete	[ ]	d on a link
5 download	[ ]	e an Internet search
6 click	[ ]	f music

55.2 **Answer the questions.**

1 What can you do when you go online? *Send emails and use the Internet*
2 What does ISP stand for? .....
3 What does an ISP give you? .....
4 What are Safari, Internet Explorer and Firefox? .....
5 What do bloggers write about? .....
6 What is spam? .....
7 How do you say this: Zac@hotmail.com? .....
8 What do people do on social networking sites? .....

55.3 **Complete the dialogues. The first letter of each answer has been given to help you.**

1 A: A friend of mine has got his own b*log*.
B: Oh yeah. What does he write about?
2 A: Do you always reply to emails i.....?
B: Yes. I think it's rude if you don't reply as soon as you receive an email. Don't you do that?
A: No. I don't reply at once unless it's really e.....
3 A: How can I view information about the computers they sell?
B: Just c..... on that l....., and it will take you to the website which has the details.
4 A: Do you have Internet a..... at your school?
B: We do in school hours, but not before or after school.
5 A: I sent you an email earlier with an a..... Did you get it?
B: Oh, I'm afraid I haven't c..... my email today yet. I'll do it now.
6 A: Do you d..... much stuff from the Internet?
B: Well, music naturally, and I also d..... a few video c.....
7 A: I keep getting viruses on my computer.
B: Ah, you will need to get some a.....-v..... software.
8 A: Do you delete emails r.....?
B: Yes, every day. I have to, because I receive so many, and most of them aren't important.

55.4 **Over to you**

Answer the questions. If possible, ask someone else the same questions.

1 Do you go on the Internet? If so, what are your favourite websites?

2 Do you have a blog or read other people's? Whose blog do you read?

3 Do you download material from the Internet? What do you download?

4 Do you watch video clips on the Internet? What video clips do you watch?

5 Do you use social networking sites or instant messaging? Which websites do you use? Who do you talk to?

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