Television, Radio and the Internet

(a) *For each word below, find the three strongest collocations from the box. Some of the words in the box may fit in more than one gap, but there will only be one answer which will enable you to complete the exercise and fill in all the gaps correctly.*

pay-per-view	cable	social	upgrade	wireless	broadcast
broadband	firewall	premiere	open source	bluetooth	reality
hopping	anti-virus	prime-time	server	search engine	studio

1.
_____ channel
_____ channel
channel _____

2.
_____ connection
_____ connection
_____ connection

3.
internet _____
internet _____
internet _____

4.
_____ network
network _____
_____ network

5.
_____ software
_____ software
software _____

6.
_____ television
_____ television
television _____

(b) *Choose a word from the box to fill each gap. Use each word once only.*

netizen(s)	picking(s)	infomercial(s)	terminal(s)
stock(s)	commercial(s)	watershed(s)	terrestrial(s)

The standard of television programming produced in this country is in _____ decline. The _____ has become a meaningless term confined in its applicability to bygone days when adult content felt the full force of censorship and was not allowed to appear on the box until after 9:00 p.m. Nowadays, however, it seems anything goes any time. And, truth told, whatever anything is, it seldom 'goes' for much longer than a half hour or so at any rate before it is interrupted by a _____ break. And don't even get me started on those appalling _____ most of the networks run right the way through the night, one after another, for up to thirty minutes at a time. It is truly painful. _____ television is now, as far as I am concerned, a laughing _____ . All the quality has been bought up by the satellite networks, with their big-money weight behind them, but even here _____ is/are slim. In protest at the dire state of things, I have become a converted _____ . I look to the web now to find good content. There, I can find just enough re-runs of quality programmes to prevent myself from falling into utter despair and pining for the good old days of yesteryear.

(c) *Choose a suitable verb to fill each gap. You are not given any options/clues.*

While the internet **1.** _____ up a whole new world of knowledge and information for this and future generations to explore, it also **2.** _____ a number of serious concerns for parents with young, net-savvy children. For starters, it is exceptionally difficult to **3.** _____ your children's net activity and **4.** _____ abreast of whom they are interacting with online. Secondly, there is little if any censorship of the internet, so parents must be **5.** _____ to do the censoring themselves or **6.** _____ on software products to do it for them. Even still, there are ways around the best-intentioned of such programmes, and, besides, the alarming level of growth in cyber-bullying is indicative of a trend parents should, perhaps, be far more concerned about. It used to be that children were **7.** _____ from the bullies one they **8.** _____ to the safe confines of their home, having escaped their schoolyard tormentors, but not anymore. There is nowhere to **9.** _____ thanks to social networks like Facebook, which, if anything, make the **10.** _____ far and wide of malicious rumours and the like easier than ever before given the virulent nature of the internet.

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