

Before the internet

It's difficult to believe that just over twenty years ago the internet ¹ wasn't (not be) here for us to use.

When the internet started there ² (not be) many people with home computers – most people ³ (use) internet cafés to go online and check their emails or to play games and the cafés ⁴ (be) quite expensive to use.

Today the internet plays an important part in our lives and we can't imagine life without it. We shop online, find information, chat and play games with people around the world. Life ⁵ (be) very different for our parents. They ⁶ (walk) into shops to do their shopping, they ⁷ (look) for information in books to find the answers to their questions, they ⁸ (chat) to friends in the street or on the phone and they ⁹ (play) games at home with their families.

¹⁰ (be) things better in the past or are they better now?