



The Internet: a friend or an enemy?

Read the text and do the exercises.

The Internet: a friend or an enemy?

The Internet is an important part of our life now. It helps pupils a lot with their homework. You don't need to go to the library to get a book for your language lesson. There are many sites where you can find your favourite e-book. If you want to make a school project, you can surf the net and get information on any topic. Doing shopping, booking tickets, watching popular YouTube videos, sharing interesting ideas, chatting, downloading music are the things you can do online. Can you live without the Internet? It seems you can do everything in the net. But is it good to spend too much time in the Internet?

For today's teenagers there is practically no line between online and real world communication. It can be common to use it too many hours each day. They may say that the Internet is more important than watching TV, having a car, or even getting washed. They chat online, make friends online, play games online, in fact, they live online! Children sometimes have "friends" on Facebook, but these are not real friends. Real friends are people you can see face-to-face. Two or three real friends are better than 200 Facebook "friends" that you never see. Finally, some people online can be criminals. They are bad people and they use the Internet to try to be your friends to trick you. They may want personal information such as your photos or home address.



The children become Internet-addicted. Internet addiction is like an illness, and every illness has its symptoms.

There are some symptoms of Internet addiction:

- 1) spending too much time in the Internet;
- 2) having problems with doing homework because you are online;
- 3) isolation from family and friends;
- 4) feeling happy while you are online and being upset when you are offline.

So, if you are going camping with your friends instead of killing computer monsters online, you are surely making the right choice!

1. Say if the sentence is true or false.

1. There are many activities you can do online.
2. The Internet helps pupils to study in school.
3. You can't download your favourite music from the net.
4. Internet addiction is a disease.
5. Spending too much time in the Internet is good for your health.
6. It is better to play computer games than go camping with your friends.



2. Do the tests on the text.

1. According to the text

- A) the Internet is a good thing.
- B) the Internet is a bad thing.
- C) the Internet has both a good and a bad side.

2. Which Internet activity is not mentioned in the text?

- A) booking tickets;
- B) getting an e-book;
- C) buying things online;
- D) cooking with the help of online courses.

3. The problems of using the Internet are:

- A) you can get any information you want;
- B) you can spend the whole day surfing the Internet;
- C) you can share your ideas through the Internet;
- D) the Internet deprives you real communication.



4. What are the symptoms of Internet addiction?

- A) you have problems with your homework if you are always online;
- B) you get upset if you can't be online;
- C) you use the Internet to do your homework;
- D) you buy things online.