Reading

6 Look at the photo and title of the text. Read the paragraph headings in exercise 7. Then choose the best answer.

1 The text is about

a different uses of the Internet in the future.

b how teenagers will use the Internet in the future.

7 Read the text and match the headings a–g with the paragraphs 1–6. There is one extra heading.

a Internet and mobile phones

b How will people use the Internet?

c The future of the Internet?

d Other gadgets

e Work and free time

f Science

g How people used the Internet

8 Read the text again and answer the questions.

1 How many websites are there?

_____

2 What will scientists around the world be able to do?

_____

3 What will NASA use their new technology for?

_____

4 Why didn't many people use the Internet on mobiles in 1996?

_____

5 Where can Electrolux fridges send emails?

_____

6 What kind of surface will people be able to display virtual keyboards on?

_____

7 What could people do in gyms in the future?

_____

The Web of the Future

1 _____

When the Internet became generally available in the 1990s nobody had any idea of just how popular it was going to become. There are over a hundred million websites, although nobody knows exactly how many there are, and there are billions of web pages. But what will the Internet be like in the future? Here, the experts give us their predictions.

2 _____

There will be lots of exciting developments in science for using the Internet. For example, scientists around the world will be able to share equipment such as special microscopes called 'electron microscopes'. The American space agency NASA has developed a 'Virtual Collaborative Clinic'. This allows doctors to find out more about diseases and to practise difficult operations in 3D. NASA plans to use the technology to provide health care on long space journeys.

3 _____

The first mobile phone with Internet was in Finland in 1996, but it was very expensive so not many people used it. Japan started the first mobile phone Internet service in 1999. By 2008, more people were using mobiles to access the Internet than computers. In the future, experts say we'll all use our mobiles to access the Internet. Mobile screens will probably get a little bigger, but not much. Of course, you'll control all the functions by pressing the screen, not buttons.

4 _____

Soon, everything from your car to your fridge will be connected to the Internet, and machines will communicate with each other. Electrolux has already developed a fridge that emails a shopping list to a local supermarket – and arranges a time for them to deliver your shopping to your house!

5 _____

We will see a big change in the way people use it. 64 percent of experts think people won't have to use the traditional keyboard. We will have 'virtual' keyboards – people will be able to display these keyboards on any flat surface, such as a table. They will write their email messages using these virtual keyboards and be able to surf the Internet too.

6 _____

Most people will also spend part of their day in virtual worlds, at home or at work. Finally, there won't be a big difference between work and free time. People will be able to connect to the Internet anywhere and work where they are – in the gym, a shop, at home or even in a virtual office.