

READING

5 A Look at the picture and the title of the text below. What do you think a *silver surfer* is?

B Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 Who introduced Barbara to the internet?
- 2 Why did Barbara dislike it at first?
- 3 What age are most of the people who go online?
- 4 Why did Barbara feel lonely before she used the internet?
- 5 Which type of online communication do silver surfers use the most?

C Match words 1–5 from the text with definitions a)–e).

1 to adapt (paragraph 1)	a) to start doing something new as a habit
2 to take to it (paragraph 2)	b) the larger number or part of something
3 absolutely (paragraph 2)	c) completely
4 the majority (paragraph 3)	d) very keen or interested
5 avid (paragraph 5)	e) to change something to fit a different situation

|||| SILVER SURFERS ||||

1 When Sonya Alanis showed her grandmother, Barbara, how to use a few online tools, she didn't really think her older relative would be very interested. But two years later she is amazed at how well her grandmother has adapted to the world of the internet. Barbara now has her own online profile, does her shopping online and is in regular contact with her granddaughter using live chat and email. And she isn't showing any signs of stopping.

2 'I was using my tablet one day,' explained Sonya, 'and my grandmother asked me what I was spending so much time doing. She found it quite annoying I think, mostly because she didn't really understand it. So I showed her some of the things I use – social networking, online chat, that kind of thing. I didn't really think she would take to it at all but she absolutely loved it. Now I'm at university and she messages me every day. I think she is online more than me to be honest.'

3 Barbara has become a silver surfer and she's not alone. In the last few years, the world of the internet has grown up. Although people below the age of 50 still make up the majority of internet users, older people are logging on in larger and larger numbers. And once they've started, the internet becomes an everyday part of their lives.

WRITING

A WEBSITE REVIEW; LEARN TO USE COMPLEX SENTENCES

6 A Complete gaps 1–4 in paragraphs A–D with the words in the box.

like feature best would

A Another _____ I like is the book reviews. Regular users of the website often write these. Even though the writers aren't professionals, some of the reviews are excellent and they give you a good idea of what's in the book.

B One website I really _____ is amazon.com. It is a website for buying books. One reason I'd recommend it is because you can buy used books. This means you can get really good books for half the price they cost in the shops.

C Finally, I _____ recommend this website to anybody who is interested in books. Even if you don't buy anything, it is fun to surf the site, and a great source of information about books of all types.

D The _____ thing about Amazon, though, is the fact that it is so easy to use and you can trust it. I have ordered dozens of books through Amazon and the books have always arrived quickly and in good condition.

B Put the paragraphs of the website review in the correct order.

C Write a website review (120–150 words).



4 Barbara has some ideas about why this change has happened. 'Once I learnt how to surf and message people it changed my life', she said. 'Before the internet I was quite lonely. My family are wonderful but they live quite far away and they are all so busy. I don't drive so I can't visit them very easily – in fact I usually only go out when they have time to take me. I use public transport occasionally but I find it difficult to carry large bags of shopping or to find my way around busy towns. So using the internet makes my life much easier. I can contact people every day and I keep in touch with people more easily.'

5 Once older people find that using the internet is so convenient, they often become avid users, though in a different way to young people. Silver surfers use email the most, sending messages to share information and contact family and friends. They also use the internet to find health information and to book travel tickets or shop online. As Sonya says, 'My grandmother is now giving me advice on new apps! She's getting better at using the web than me!'

VOCABULARY

WELCOMING

1 A Make phrases for welcoming with the words in the boxes. Then complete the conversations.

at mess make the yourself help home
excuse yourself

1 A: Can I try one of these cakes?

B: Yes, _____.

2 A: Come in, _____.

B: It looks very tidy to me. You should see my place!

3 A: Welcome!

B: Thanks. What a nice room.

my seat up guest put a be your
have feet

4 A: May I use your phone, please?

B: _____.

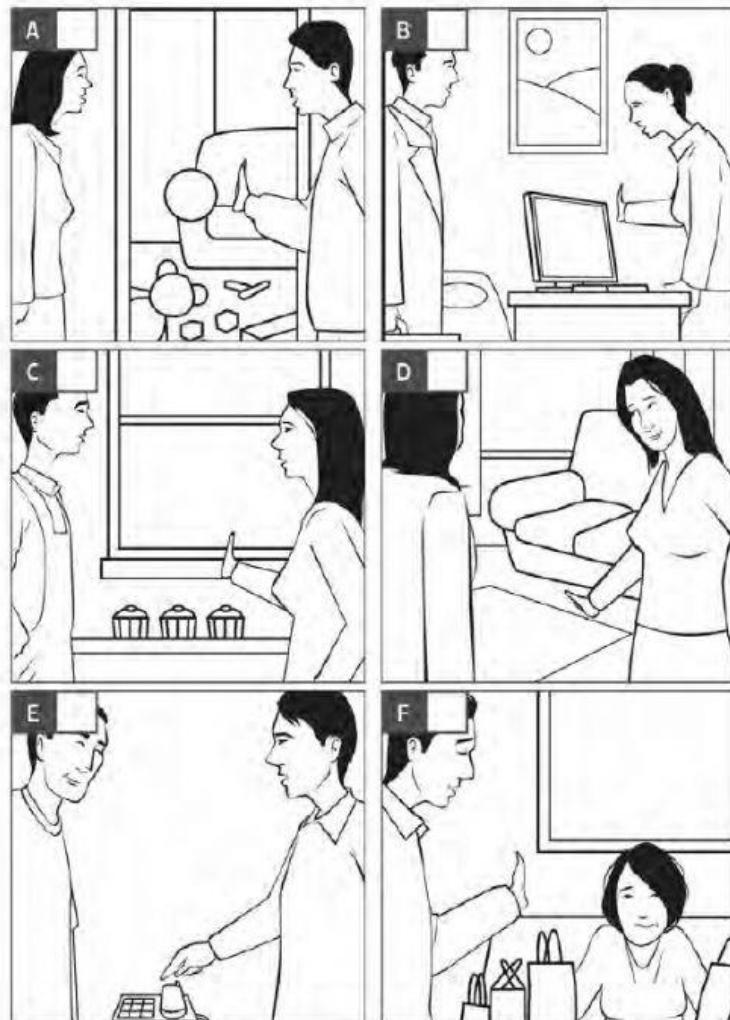
5 A: Good morning. I'm here to see Mr Drucker.

B: I'll tell him you're here.

6 A: You must be exhausted.

B: Thank you. Yes, it was a really tiring day.

B Match pictures A-F with the conversations in Exercise 1A.



FUNCTION

BEING A GOOD GUEST

2 Tick the correct sentences.

- 1 a) Is it OK if I arrive half an hour late?
b) Is it OK if I'm arrive half an hour late?
- 2 a) What we should do if we get lost?
b) What should we do if we get lost?
- 3 a) Do I need to bring a present?
b) Do I need bring a present?
- 4 a) Was I did something wrong?
b) Did I do something wrong?
- 5 a) Is this a bad time? I come back later.
b) Is this a bad time? I can come back later.
- 6 a) If I'm you, I'd apologise.
b) If I were you, I'd apologise.
- 7 a) Sorry about that. I didn't know.
b) Sorry for that. I didn't know.
- 8 a) My apologise. I didn't realise.
b) My apologies. I didn't realise.
- 9 a) No, it's not the necessary.
b) No, it's not necessary.
- 10 a) Don't worry. It's fine.
b) You don't worry. It's fine.

LEARN TO

ACCEPT APOLOGIES

3 Underline the correct alternative.

- 1 A: I'm really sorry. I broke this cup.
B: It's no problem./It's not the problem.
- 2 A: Sorry, I didn't phone you before coming. I can see you're busy.
B: Not at all./Not all. I'll be finished in just a minute.
- 3 A: My apologies. I didn't realise you were working.
B: That's too right./That's all right. I'm not doing anything important.
- 4 A: Sorry, did I do something wrong? I didn't know I had to shake everyone's hand.
B: It's very fine./It's fine. I don't think anyone noticed.
- 5 A: I forgot to send you the notes from the last meeting. Sorry about that.
B: Nothing./It's nothing. Don't worry about it.
- 6 A: I'm sorry. I didn't bring anything for the children.
B: You really don't have to./You really haven't to. They're just happy to see you.