

ONE-CLICK SHOPPING

1 _____

What can you buy online? These days you can buy food, cars, holidays and even a house with a few clicks and a credit card. In fact, it might be quicker to list the things that you *can't* buy on the Internet.

2 _____

According to statistics, 85% of Internet users have bought something online. In 2006 only 10% of the world's population shopped on the Internet. Two years later the figure was 40% – that's nearly 900 million shoppers!

3 _____

It's easy to see why people are choosing their computer instead of the high street. With city centres getting more and more crowded, and things like petrol and parking getting so expensive, it makes sense to avoid the crowds and shop from home. There are often great deals on the Internet too.

4 _____

Of course, there are disadvantages to shopping for things online. You can't try clothes on before you buy, so they can sometimes be the wrong size, or disappointing when they arrive. And of course, Internet shoppers have to be patient and wait for the goods to arrive.

5 _____

So will Internet shopping replace shopping in town completely? It's hard to say, but most people think it won't, even with more and more Internet offers and possibilities. In the UK shopping with friends or family has become one of the most popular leisure activities. Many people simply enjoy going shopping.

A I'll meet you in town

D Saving time and money

B Watch out for Internet crime!

E Is this what I ordered?

C It's all there on the web

F More and more customers

MYSTERIOUS CROP CIRCLES

Martin Blane is a farmer in Cornwall, in England. One summer, Martin noticed that something strange was happening on his land. He was standing on a bridge and looking at the wheat in his fields when he realised there was a strange picture in the wheat.

1 *Martin Blane noticed that the animals in his fields were behaving strangely. True / False*

'I looked and saw lots of circles in the wheat. The line of circles went across the field from the gate all the way to the end by the stream. They were very big. Other circles made a kind of picture in the wheat. I thought aliens had come from space.'

2 *The big circles went from one end of the field to the other. True / False*

During that summer, and all through the 1970s, more strange pictures appeared in wheat fields on farms in the south of England. Nobody knew what these 'crop circles' were. Photographs of them appeared in all the newspapers and people thought the subject was gripping. Many thought that aliens had come to Earth and made the pictures.

3 *The media weren't interested in the crop circles. True / False*

But then in the 1990s two men admitted to making the crop circles. They made a plan for a picture and then they went out secretly in the night to make their picture in the fields. Some people think they were creative and the crop circles were entertaining, but their actions were illegal. The men were on land that didn't belong to them. Farmers were angry because their crops were damaged. The two men promised to stop.

4 *Everyone was angry because the men damaged farmers' crops. True / False*

However, the crop circles are still appearing. On the Internet, you will find photographs of crop circles on farms in different countries around the world. Some people believe the two men were lying, and the crop circles are really made by aliens.

5 *People disagree about who makes the crop circles. True / False*