



1. Complete the text with the simple present passive voice \_\_\_\_/7

## SWITCHING OFF THE INTERNET

We live in a world where, every minute on the Internet, approximately 187 million emails \_\_\_\_ over a. (send) \$860,000 \_\_\_\_ by online shoppers, and 18 million b.(spend) text messages \_\_\_\_\_. In that same 60-second period, c.(send) there are 3.7 million search queries on Google™. Now imagine, if you can, that the Internet \_\_\_\_ suddenly d.(switch off) \_\_\_\_\_. Not for one minute but for 24 hours!

In Algeria in 2018, there was a complete Internet blackout for up to three hours a day for five days. The reason? It wasn't to stop people watching the latest cat memes. It was to stop students from cheating in their school-leaving exams. The year before, many students arrived at their exams late. By the time those students went into the examination hall, they had had time to see some of the questions as they had already been posted online. So, the next year they decided to switch off the Internet for the first hour of each exam.

Algeria is not the only country that has switched off the Internet because of online cheating. In Mauritania, for example, they had a complete Internet blackout from the morning until evening on exam days. But, in both cases, there was a lot of criticism for taking these drastic steps. Naturally, when the Internet \_\_\_\_\_, a number e.(switch off) of businesses, from travel agents to banks, cannot continue working. And people complained that there are easier alternatives to stop Internet cheating. Mobile phone jammers could probably do the same job.

Meanwhile, Bali had a completely different reason for switching the Internet off. For the first time in 2018 they switched it off for 24 hours to celebrate 'Nyepi', or the Balinese New Year. This holiday \_\_\_\_\_ f.(celebrate) with meditation and silence. Shops and tourist attractions \_\_\_\_\_ and so is the airport. People must stay at home g.(close)

and they must not light fires or use electrical devices. Even tourists were not allowed to go out onto the streets or to the beach for 24 hours, but wi-fi was available to them in hotels. Indonesia is, in fact, one of the most connected nations in the world, with more than 132 million users. But as the governor of Bali said, life can go on perfectly well without the Internet.

So what about in the UK? Is there any situation when the Internet can be unplugged? According to law, the Internet can only be shut down to protect the public's safety or health, or in the interests of national security, for example, to protect against a major cyber-attack. It would need to be very serious though, because switching off the Internet can have serious financial consequences. The Brookings Institution calculated that Internet blackouts around the world in 2015–16 cost countries at least \$2.4 billion!

2. Answer the following questions about the text \_\_\_\_/12

- a. What do the numbers 187 million, 860,000 and 3.7 million refer to in the text? Why are these things mentioned?
- b. Why did Algeria switch off the internet? Explain. What other countries did it for the same reasons?
- c. What are some of the disadvantages of these measures?
- d. What happened in Bali that made them decide to turn off the internet?
- e. Do you think it was a good idea? Why/why not?
- f. Under what circumstances is it possible to switch off internet in the UK?

3. Transform the active voice sentences into passive voice ones, using the appropriate tenses \_\_\_\_/10

- a. People use the internet to conduct important business like shopping, sending documents, etc
- b. Countries will find alternative ways to deal with problems like cheating.
- c. Inventions like TV have changed lives since their appearance
- d. Rene Favaloro created the bypass
- e. Da Vinci painted the Mona Lisa, although there are rumours that someone else did it.

4. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets \_\_\_\_/4

- a. The Obelisco is one of the most impressive \_\_\_\_\_ (build) in Argentina
- b. An \_\_\_\_\_ (invent) is a person that creates a new object
- c. A car \_\_\_\_\_ (test) is necessary before launching it
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ (compose) write new music