

# 5

# Faces of the Internet

| Unit                      | page |
|---------------------------|------|
| 16 The Internet and email | 79   |
| 17 The Web                | 84   |
| 18 Chat and conferencing  | 89   |
| 19 Internet security      | 94   |

## Learning objectives

### In this module, you will:

- study vocabulary related to the Internet and email.
- learn how to form different types of question.
- learn about the basic features of the Web.
- learn and use collocations related to the Internet.
- learn and use vocabulary related to the Web, e-commerce, online banking, online chatting and videoconferencing.
- learn and use abbreviations in online chats.
- learn about the basic ideas related to security and privacy on the Internet.
- discuss controversial issues related to the Internet.



## 1 Internet basics

- A**  In pairs, discuss how you would define *the Internet*.
- B**  Make a list of all the things you can use the Internet for.
- C**  Listen to a conversation between a customer buying a PC and a sales assistant. Why do you think the sales assistant has to explain so much about the Internet?
- D**  Listen again and complete the customer's notes.

To connect to the Internet from home, I need:

(1) a \_\_\_\_\_ and (2) a \_\_\_\_\_.

Also need an account with an (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (a company that offers connection for a monthly fee).

If you want to connect lots of computers without using cables, you can use a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ router.

Wi-Fi uses (5) \_\_\_\_\_ waves to send data over medium-range distances.

Things you can do on the Internet:

(6) \_\_\_\_\_

'Web' or 'Internet'? The Web: huge collection of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ stored on computers all over the world. The Internet: the network which connects all the computers.

## 2 Internet FAQs

- A** Read Part 1 of the Internet FAQs on page 80 and choose the correct answers.

- The Internet was
  - invented in the mid-90s.
  - popular in the 1960s.
  - probably created in the USA.
- Which term describes any fast, high-bandwidth connection?
  - broadband
  - dial-up connection
  - Wi-Fi connection
- The power-line Internet provides broadband access through
  - telephone lines.
  - satellites.
  - electrical power lines.
- Which device converts computer data into a form that can be transmitted over phone lines?
  - ADSL
  - a mobile phone
  - a modem
- The standard protocol that allows computers to communicate over the Internet is called
  - an IP address.
  - TCP/IP.
  - HTTP.
- The geographical region covered by one or several access points is called a
  - wireless access point.
  - hotspot.
  - wireless network device.

## Internet FAQs: Part 1

### **How old is the Internet (the Net)? When was it created?**

It's hard to say exactly. The research that led to what we now know as the Internet was begun in the 1960s.

### **Who created the Internet?**

Again, it's hard to say exactly who created it. The initial research was carried out by the Advanced Research Projects Agency in America, funded by the US government.

### **Did the Internet become popular quickly?**

It took many years for the Internet to become popular around the world. It's only really since the mid-90s that the Internet has been a part of our daily lives.

### **How do you get online?**

To get connected, you need a computer, the right connection software and a modem connected to the phone line. You also need an account with an Internet Service Provider (ISP), which acts as a gateway between your PC and the rest of the Net.

### **How fast are today's internet connections?**

Today, ISPs offer a broadband, high-speed connection. The most common types are cable – offered by local cable TV companies – and ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line), which works through phone lines. They are both faster than the traditional dial-up telephone connection. Broadband access is also offered by some electricity networks. This competing technology, known as power-line Internet, provides low-cost access via the power plug, but is still in development.

### **How long has broadband existed?**

Since the late 1990s.

### **How much does broadband access cost?**

It depends on which company you choose. Nowadays, some companies even offer free broadband.

### **Why do you need a modem?**

A modem (**m**odulator/**d**emodulator) converts digital signals into analogue signals so that data can be transmitted across the phone or cable network.

### **What does TCP/IP mean?**

The language used for data transfer on the Internet is known as TCP/IP (**t**ransmission **c**ontrol **p**rotocol/**i**nternet **p**rotocol). This is like the internet operating system. Every computer connected to the Net is identified by a unique IP address.

### **Are there other ways of accessing the Internet?**

Other methods of internet access include Wi-Fi, satellite, mobile phones and TV sets equipped with a modem. Wi-Fi-enabled laptops or PDAs allow you to connect to the Net if you are near a wireless access point, in locations called hotspots (for example, a Wi-Fi café, park or campus). Satellite services are used in places where terrestrial access is not available (for example, on ships at sea). High-end mobile phones provide access through the phone network.

**B**  In pairs, discuss which of the internet systems (1–6) you would use to do the tasks (a–f). Then read Part 2 of the FAQs on page 81 and check your answers.

- |               |                                                                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Email       | a transfer files from the Internet to your hard drive                            |
| 2 The Web     | b send a message to another person via the Internet                              |
| 3 Newsgroups  | c have a live conversation (usually typed) online                                |
| 4 Chat and IM | d connect to a remote computer by entering instructions, and run a program on it |
| 5 FTP         | e take part in public discussion areas devoted to specific topics                |
| 6 Telnet      | f download and view documents published on the Internet                          |



## Internet FAQs: Part 2

### Email

Email lets you exchange messages with people all over the world. Optional attached files can include text, pictures and even audio and animation. A mailing list uses email to communicate messages to all its subscribers – that is, everyone that belongs to the list.

#### **Which email program is the best?**

Outlook Express is a popular program, but many users use web-based email accounts such as Hotmail.

### The Web

The Web consists of billions of documents living on web servers that use the HTTP protocol. You navigate through the Web using a program called a web browser, which lets you search, view and print web pages.

#### **How often are web pages updated?**

It depends entirely on the page. Some are updated thousands of times a day.

### Chat and Instant Messaging (IM)

Chat and Instant Messaging technologies allow you to have real-time conversations online, by typing messages at the keyboard.

### FTP

FTP, or file transfer protocol, is used to transfer files over a TCP/IP network. Nowadays, this feature is built into Web browsers. You can download programs, games and music files from a remote computer to your hard drive.

### Telnet

Telnet is a protocol and a program used to log onto remote computer systems. It enables you to enter commands that will be executed as if you were entering them directly on the remote server.

### Newsgroups

Newsgroups are the public discussion areas which make up a system called *Usenet*. The contents are contributed by people who post articles or respond to articles, creating chains of related postings called message threads. You need a newsreader to subscribe to newsgroups and to read and post messages. The newsreader may be a stand-alone program or part of a web browser.

#### **How many newsgroups are there?**

There are approximately 30,000 active newsgroups.

#### **Where can you find newsgroups?**

Your newsreader may allow you to download the newsgroup addresses that your ISP has included on its news server. An alternative to using a newsreader is to visit web forums instead, which perform the same function but without the additional software.

### **C Find words and phrases in Part 2 with the following meanings.**

- 1 a system used to distribute email to many different subscribers at once (in *Email* paragraph)
- 2 a program used for displaying web pages (in *The Web* paragraph)
- 3 to connect to a computer by typing your username and password (in *Telnet* paragraph)
- 4 a series of interrelated messages on a given topic (in *Newsgroups* paragraph)
- 5 a program for reading Usenet newsgroups (in *Newsgroups* paragraph)

### 3 Language work: questions

**A** Look at the HELP box and then make a question about Sue Clarke for each of her answers.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
I'm 23 years old.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
I'm an online researcher.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
I use the Internet to find information requested by clients.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
I've been doing this job for six months.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
I graduated from university in 2006.



Sue Clarke

#### HELP box

##### Questions

- In questions, we normally place the auxiliary verb before the subject.  
*Are there other ways of accessing the Internet?*
- If there is no other auxiliary, we use **do/does** (present simple) or **did** (past simple).  
*Did the Internet become popular quickly?*
- There are many question words in English which we use to find out more information than just yes or no.  
People  
*Who created the Internet?*  
Things  
*What does TCP/IP mean?*  
*Which email program is the best?*

##### Place

*Where can you find newsgroups?*

##### Time

*When was it created?*

*How often are web pages updated?*

*How long has broadband existed?*

##### Reason

*Why do you need a modem?*

##### Quantity

*How much does broadband access cost?*

*How many newsgroups are there?*

##### Manner

*How do you get online?*

##### Others

*How fast are today's internet connections?*

*How old is the Internet?*

**B**  In pairs, make questions using these prompts. Then practise asking and answering the questions.

Example: When / first / use the Internet    *When did you first use the Internet?*

- 1 What type of internet connection / have at home?
- 2 How fast / your internet connection?
- 3 How much / pay for broadband access?
- 4 How often / access the Internet?
- 5 Which email program / use?
- 6 Who / send email to?
- 7 Do / use your mobile phone to access the Internet?
- 8 Do / use the Internet in public spaces using Wi-Fi?
- 9 Do / play games online?
- 10 How many newsgroups / subscribe to?



## 4 Email features

### A Read the text and find the following.

- 1 the place where your ISP stores your emails
- 2 the type of program used to read and send email from a computer
- 3 the part of an email address that identifies the user of the service
- 4 the line that describes the content of an email
- 5 the computer file which is sent along with an email message
- 6 facial symbols used to indicate an emotion or attitude
- 7 the name given to junk mail

### B Write a reply to Celia's email below.

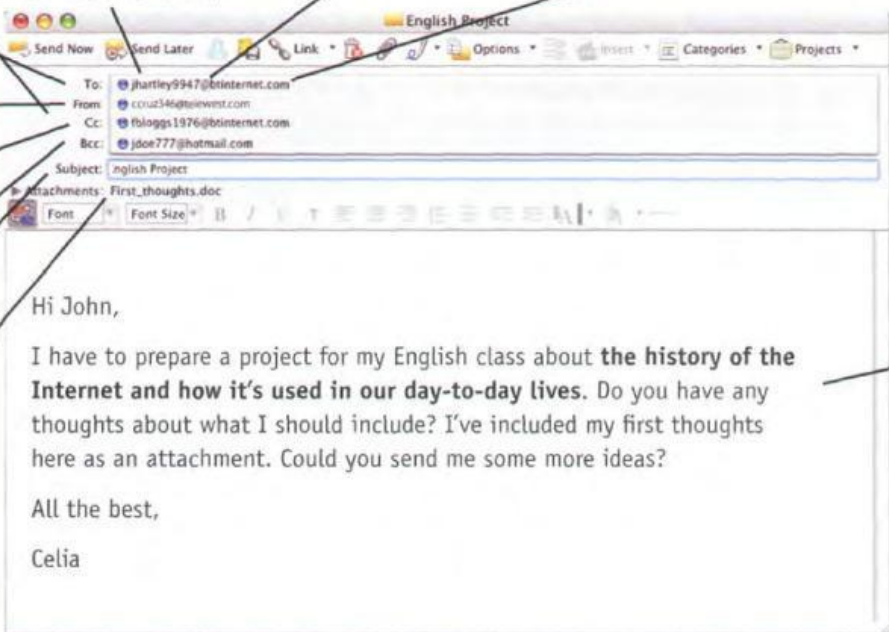
### Email features

When you set up an account with an Internet Service Provider, you are given an **email address** and a **password**. The mail you receive is stored on the **mail server** of your ISP – in a simulated mailbox – until you next connect and download it to your hard drive.

There are two ways to get email over the Internet. One is by using a **mail program** (known as an **email client**) installed on your computer, for example Eudora or Outlook Express. The other way is to use **web-based email**, accessible from any web browser. Hotmail and Gmail are good examples.

You can make the message more expressive by including **emoticons**, also called **smileys**. For example, ;-) for wink, :-) for happy, :-o for surprised, :-D for laughing, etc. You may also like to add a **signature file**, a pre-written text file appended to the end of the message. The name given to unsolicited email messages is **spam**.

### The anatomy of an email



The diagram shows an email client window titled "English Project". The email is from "jhartley9947@btinternet.com" to "ccruz346@btinternet.com". The subject is "English Project". The body of the email reads: "Hi John, I have to prepare a project for my English class about the history of the Internet and how it's used in our day-to-day lives. Do you have any thoughts about what I should include? I've included my first thoughts here as an attachment. Could you send me some more ideas? All the best, Celia". There is an attachment named "First\_thoughts.doc".

**The header**

**To:** name and address of the recipient

**From:** name and address of the sender

**Cc:** carbon copy sent to another person

**Bcc:** blind carbon copy

**Subject:** topic of the message

**Attachment:** files added to the message

**The username** (a person's name or nickname)

**The @ sign**, which means at

**The domain name or network address** – that is, the mail server where the account is located. The final part adds information about it, for example **com** = company, **uk** = United Kingdom, **fr** = France, etc.

**The body** contains the message itself