

## READING

**1** What do you know about these Internet terms? Match the terms (1-5) with the examples or definitions (a-e). Read the text and check your answers.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 URL           | a 123.456.789.123  |
| 2 http          | b a web page that has a database of web pages on the Internet                      |
| 3 IP address    | c http://me.cd.gov.org   |
| 4 search engine | d a small file that helps your computer remember information you put on a web page |
| 5 cookie        | e an example of a system that allows for transfer of information between computers |

1 ... 2 ... 3 ... 4 ... 5 ...

**2** Read the text and answer the question. Does the writer think it is important to know how the Internet works?

159

### Do we know how the Internet works?

At school children now learn that the Internet is a network of interconnected networks. We connect to a server, which in turn connects us to other servers all over the world. Then we can access all kinds of information and services. However, many older people have learnt to use the Internet without any instruction. The reason for this is because it is user-friendly. The experts who have developed search engines and websites know that people need to find the process quick and easy or they simply won't use it. Do we need to know that the URL of a site is made up of the protocol (e.g. http), the name of the host computer (e.g. me.cd) and the extension (e.g. .org)? Not really. We just click on links or icons that tell us to register, pay, log in or download and the system does the rest. Very few people know how to create a web page, but we can certainly all use one!

Of course, it is useful to know where you are going when surfing the Internet. For example, when you see .mx it means the website is from Mexico or .au is from Australia. This can help you narrow your search, but search engines are becoming more and more sophisticated and can anticipate your preferences

from where you have browsed recently (using cookies) or the location of your PC, laptop or tablet. Each device has an IP address, which is a series of numbers that very few people actually remember, but means that the search engine knows which language or geographical area you might be interested in.

Apart from giving us information or access to services, the Internet is widely used for communication. Through email, social networks, forums and blogs people can socialise, share things, advertise, protest and generally make or maintain contact with others all over the world. Most people haven't a clue if they are using IP telephony or P2P networks; they just join a service with a click and start using it.

In the end, it's like using a television or a car — we don't really need to know how it works, we just hope that it takes us where we want to go! And take it to the repair shop if it doesn't.



**3** Answer the questions.

- 1 Why is it important for the Internet to be 'user-friendly'?
- 2 How can we know where a website is from?
- 3 According to the text, what are the three main uses of the Internet?
- 4 What are cookies used for?
- 5 Why does the author compare the Internet to a television or a car?

**4** Complete the sentences with the highlighted words in the text.

- 1 My brother spends all day on a social ... called

LinkedIn and he writes comments on the ... that the site has about Internet security.

2 My favourite ... are Google and Yahoo. You can find ... to millions of web pages there.

3 Be careful when you ... files from a ... you are not familiar with. You may get a virus on your PC.

4 He needs to ... the university web pages to see his results, but he can't ... because he's forgotten his password.

5 Last night I just went online and ... the web to find holiday offers or interesting travel articles.

6 It is useful for small businesses to set up a ... which will link their computers together.

## 5. Complete the text with the words from the box.

data device gigabyte hotspot provider router settings smartphone tethering wireless

Wi-fi is a technology that allows you to connect your computer or (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to the Internet using a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ connection. At home, most people have a (3) \_\_\_\_\_, which is a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that is connected via the telephone line to a service (5) \_\_\_\_\_. If you are in a public place, such as an airport, you may be able to connect to a wi-fi (6) \_\_\_\_\_. This can be free, or you may have to pay. New smartphones also work as hotspots, so you can connect your computer to the wi-fi signal from your phone by changing the (7) \_\_\_\_\_. This is called (8) \_\_\_\_\_. But be careful, your phone contract may have a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ limit, so the transfer of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ may be slow, or not work at all.

## 6. Listen to the telephone conversation between Carol and Mel and answer the questions.

- 1 What problem does Carol have?
- 2 What is the solution to the problem?
- 3 Which person knows more about technology?

## 7. Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 How should Carol send the documents to her boss?
- 2 When will the telephone company come to repair the problem?
- 3 What does Carol use the Internet on her phone for?

## 8. Choose the correct option.

I spend a lot of time (1) **watching** / **browsing** airline websites. They are usually (2) **user-friendly** / **accessed**. Sometimes an airline will send me an email about a special offer, so I (3) **click** / **hit** on the email and (4) **access** / **log on** the list of destinations. There I select my dates, click again and immediately see times and prices. If I do decide to buy a ticket, the website uses (5) **cookies** / **forums** to remember my credit card details, so I'm only one click away from Honolulu or Patagonia. It's easy!

## Documentary Module 8 Unit 7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xauNGTvHJsQ>

### Decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false ones.

- 1 Most people only use the Internet for a very limited number of things, for example booking plane tickets.
- 2 James Brown carries a personal alarm system because he is worried someone will attack him.
- 3 Telecare offers people the opportunity to stay in their own homes even if they have an illness or are elderly.

4 If a patient needs help, the telecare operator organises the most effective response.

5 Telehealth means doctors can monitor physiological data, like blood pressure from a distance.

6 Teleoperations means that medical equipment is operated by robots.

## Same language, different lives

Listen to the speakers (1-7) talking about what people in their country use the Internet for. Which thing does each speaker mention?



- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1 a spelling words    | b common words   |
| 2 a media events      | b reading news   |
| 3 a finding work      | b offering work  |
| 4 a social networking | b programming    |
| 5 a free access       | b Internet cafés |
| 6 a buying food       | b paying bills   |
| 7 a shop online       | b make friends   |

## **ANSWER KEY**

### **READING Activity 1**

1 c 2 e 3 a 4 b 5 d

### **Activity 2**

No, he doesn't think so.

### **Activity 3**

1 It's important to be user-friendly because people need to find the process of using the Internet quick and easy, otherwise they won't use it.

2 We know where a website is from because of the extension in the URL (e.g. the .mx).

3 The three main uses of the Internet are finding information, accessing services, communicating.

4 Cookies are used for anticipating your preferences from the websites you have browsed.

5 The author compares it because we use them without knowing how they work

### **Activity 4**

1 network, forum 2 search engines, links 3 download, website 4 access, log in 5 browsed 6 server

### **Activity 5**

1 smartphone 2 wireless 3 router 4 device 5 provider 6 hotspot 7 settings 8 tethering 9 gigabyte 10 data

### **Activity 6**

1 She hasn't got Internet because her router has broken.

2 The solution is to connect her PC to her smartphone wi-fi.

3 Mel knows more about technology

### **Activity 7**

1 Carol should send the documents on the company website.

2 The telephone company will come tomorrow.

3 She uses the Internet to look at emails.

### **Activity 8**

1 browsing 2 user-friendly 3 click 4 access 5 cookies

### **Documentary**

1 F They use the Internet for lots of different things.

2 F He carries it in case he has a diabetes attack.

3 T

4 T

5 T

6 F It means that medical equipment is used remotely (from a distance).

### **Same language, different lives**

1 a 2 b 3 a 4 a 5 b 6 b 7 a