

The Internet

Internet: The wonder gift of the science

“The new information technology- internet and e- mail- have practically eliminated the physical costs of communication” - Peter Drucker.

Yes, communication has really been the backbone of our technological evolution and progress. Of the various means of communication, internet has emerged as the most popular, convenient and economic mode. Today, we cannot even imagine a day without internet. The internet was first developed in the 19th century with the invention of the telegraph. But in modern history from 1950s and 1960s onwards, internet has been used for computers.

The internet is the fastest means of communication in the world today. It is also the world’s largest communicating technology. Internet was first developed for military communication in world war 2nd, and it was perhaps the government activities that led to the development of it. Today, it is used by almost the whole world. We can open our own websites and check out other websites with a click of a mouse. The world has prospered a lot in the past decades as compared to previous ones. This is all because of internet. Internet is something that enables us to keep in touch with the world. But like any other big inventions, internet also has its own pros and cons.

As we know, today the internet is used by millions of people all the time. Its main purpose is communication. It is because of this internet that people are so near to their friends and relatives, despite being geographically far apart. It has eventually made the world much smaller than its usual size. World has become a global village where everyone can communicate with each other almost every day, irrespective of their geographical boundaries. There are also some social networking websites like ‘Orkut’ and ‘facebook’, which helps us to keep in touch with everyone we know, get updates on their status and chat online. We all have our own e-mail addresses and can easily send and receive e-mails. It is also a source of enormous knowledge. We can get any information we want with just a click through a search engine like Google. It is due to this internet that there is such a rapid progress in the fields of science and technology. It is also a big source of entertainment. We can listen, play and download our favourite songs, movies and games here. It also plays an important role in banking and financial sectors, like transferring money, paying premiums, and buying anything, from books to cars etc. Nowadays even a small coffee shop has internet. So on and so forth; the list of advantages from the internet is endless.

While the internet is so useful and beneficial to mankind, on the other hand it has also several negative effects. Excessive use of the internet can lead to internet addiction. Today, a vast majority of internet users in the world suffer from it. A few weeks ago, a woman was interviewed in BBC, where she had admitted that she was divorced by her husband because he complained that most of the time in the day she is glued to the internet and it made his life like a hell. Well this is just one of the millions examples of its destructive effect. Social networking enables people to see all information of others, from gender to their interests, friends and pictures. This is also not good as most people prefer to maintain privacy as far as possible. There are some obscene videos posted on internet, which can have a very bad effect on the growing children. Prolonged use of internet can lead to serious health problems. Most common health problems are vision problem and neck & back pain, to just name a few. Due to internet

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addiction/attraction, children nowadays have increasingly become less interested in outdoor activities and games, which is not good for the healthy growth of the children. Also, the short forms used while chatting such as gr8 for great, frm for from, u for you etc. can eventually decrease the vocabulary of a person. So, it is seen that internet can have a really serious negative effect on our lives, mentally, physically as well as socially.

However, the advantages of internet by far outnumber its disadvantages and whether you like it or not: we have to live with it. And in that case we should take the full advantage of its benefits. In earlier times, people couldn't even imagine something like this could be invented. Therefore, we should salute those scientists for sacrificing their valuable time and resources for the benefit of all of us. The onus lies on each one of us to make good use of the internet and lead the world to greater scientific revolutions. Let me conclude by saying that "Internet is the greatest gift to the mankind, let us march forward with it to scale newer heights".

-Trishala Goswami

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