

KUEPE SAMPLE - SHORT READING

- (1) The Internet was created in the US in the 1960s as a tool to link university and government research centers via a nationwide network that would allow a wide variety of computers to exchange information and share resources. There were numerous engineering challenges, beginning with the design of a packet-switching network—a system that could make computers communicate with each other without the need for a traditional central system. Others included the design of the machines, data exchange protocols, and software to run it. What eventually grew out of these efforts is a miraculous low-cost technology that is swiftly and dramatically changing the world. It is available to people at home, in schools and universities, and in public libraries and “cyber cafes.”
- (2) The Internet is not owned or controlled by any organization, cooperation, or nation. It connects people in 65 countries instantaneously through computers, fiber optics, satellites and phone lines. It is changing culture patterns, business practices, the consumer industry, and research and educational pursuits. It helps people keep up to date on world events, find a restaurant in a foreign city or a cheap flight to Paris, play games, and discuss everything from apples to zoology. It has gathered support for human rights in **suppressed nations**, saved the life of a child in Beijing, and helped a man in Iowa find a lost family member in Brazil. Leonardo Kleinrock invented the technology of the Internet in 1962 while he was a university student. The packet-switching technology he proposed was a dramatic improvement over the circuit-switched telephone network. Packet switching chops message into packets, and sends these packets of data independently through the network as if they are electronic letters passing through an electronic post office. In 1963, a man named J.C.R Licklider visualized a network that would connect machines and people worldwide. This network, which formed the foundation of the Internet, was made public in California in 1969.
- (3) Universities and research organizations were among the first to join the network in order to exchange information. Electronic mail was introduced in 1972 by Ray Tomlinson. More networks began to pop up in the 1980s. Commercial organizations, which fell outside the original charter, wanted to use the same packet-switching technologies, and the system came to be known as the Internet during this period. It had far exceeded its original purpose, and was providing the stimulus for a vast technological revolution that was just ahead.
- (4) Major innovations in software were necessary before the Internet could function as a global information utility. In 1989, Tim Berners-Lee, a scientist in Geneva, proposed a project that would provide information worldwide called the World Wide Web. Simple tools to retrieve information from the Web and communicate would be the focus of much activity in the text few years. In 1991, the University of Minnesota developed “Gopher,” the first successful Internet document retrieval system. In the spring of 1993, a group of graduate students, led by 21-year-old Marc Andreessen, created a “browser” program called Mosaic and distributed it free. Netscape and then Microsoft followed with browsers that greatly simplified a computer user’s ability to surf the Internet in search of information.
- (5) Today people can search thousands of databases and libraries worldwide in several languages, browse through hundreds of millions of documents, journals, books, and computer programs, and keep up to the minute with wire-service news, sports, and weather reports. An increasing number of people shop, bank, and pay bills on the Internet. Many invest in stocks and commodities online. It’s a powerful symbol of society’s expectations about the future—fast-moving technology that adds convenience and efficiency to their lives.

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(6) Beyond convenience, as people consider the philosophical ramifications of the Internet, some view it as a tool of unity and democratization. In the 1960s, long before the Internet, futurist and author Sir Arthur C. Clarke predicted that by 2000 a vast electronic “global library” would be developed. Recently, a judge cited it as “the single most important advancement to freedom of speech.” Marshall McLuhan coined the phrase “the global village” when he spoke of how radio and television had transformed the world in the course of the 20th century. In the 21st century, it seems the Internet is destined to have even more profound effects.

- 1) The original purpose of developing the Internet was _____.
 - a) to enable the sharing of information and resources of government and university research centers by a wide variety of computers
 - b) to make it possible for computers all over the world to share information and resources
 - c) to deal with the numerous challenges related to the design of a packet-switching network
 - d) to create a system that would design machines and establish data exchange protocols

- 2) One of the important steps that had to be taken during the design of the Internet was the development of a system that would _____.
 - a) connect phone lines throughout the world
 - b) require the use of a circuit-switching telephone network
 - c) dramatically improve the packet-switching technology
 - d) enable contact between computers without the use for a traditional central system

- 3) The phrase “**suppressed nations**” in paragraph 2 probably refer to nations where people are _____.
 - a) prevented from enjoying their freedom
 - b) constantly at war with other countries
 - c) continuously fighting with disease
 - d) content with their lives

- 4) It can be understood from paragraph 3 that _____.
 - a) the internet advanced much more than its creators had at first planned
 - b) the name “Internet” was first used in the 1970s
 - c) commercial organizations joined the Internet before others
 - d) the increased number of new networks brought about the introduction of electronic mail

- 5) Paragraph 4 is mainly about _____.
 - a) how the first successful Internet retrieval system, “Gopher,” was developed
 - b) how many scientists came together to develop a browser called Mosaic
 - c) the development of new software which led to the globalization of the Internet
 - d) the development and success of the World Wide Web project by a scientist in Geneva

ANSWER KEY 1.a 2.d 3.d 4.a 5.a 6.c 7.b