

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1..... a divide | a. compared with, against |
| 2..... to make up | b. a big system consisting of many parts that are connected together |
| 3..... universal | c. to make a big thing or number from smaller things or numbers |
| 4..... abstract | d. annoyed or upset because you cannot achieve what you want |
| 5..... frustrated | e. something that exists as an idea, not a real thing you can see and touch |
| 6..... vague | f. a difference or separation |
| 7..... a network | g. not very clear or detailed |
| 8..... versus (vs.) | h. existing everywhere and for everyone |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | HTTP is the computer language that makes the web possible. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | The Queen of England sent the first-ever email. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Tim Berners-Lee thinks his invention is as close to perfect as it can be. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Tim Berners-Lee had to invent hypertext before he could invent the World Wide Web. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | He created the web because scientists at CERN didn't like to talk to each other to share ideas. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Berners-Lee's boss wasn't completely positive about the idea of the web. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | You can no longer visit the first-ever webpage. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | The UN and Tim Berners-Lee share a similar plan for the World Wide Web. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: matching

Match the two halves of the sentences and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|----|--|
| 1..... | The internet and the web are | a. | was developed in the 1970s. |
| 2..... | The idea for the internet | b. | not exactly the same thing. |
| 3..... | The problem at CERN was | c. | universal internet access by 2020. |
| 4..... | The first webpage | d. | that information was not easy to access. |
| 5..... | Forty-five per cent of | e. | was published in 1991. |
| 6..... | The United Nations is aiming for | f. | the world does not have internet access. |

Discussion

What has the World Wide Web helped you do today?