

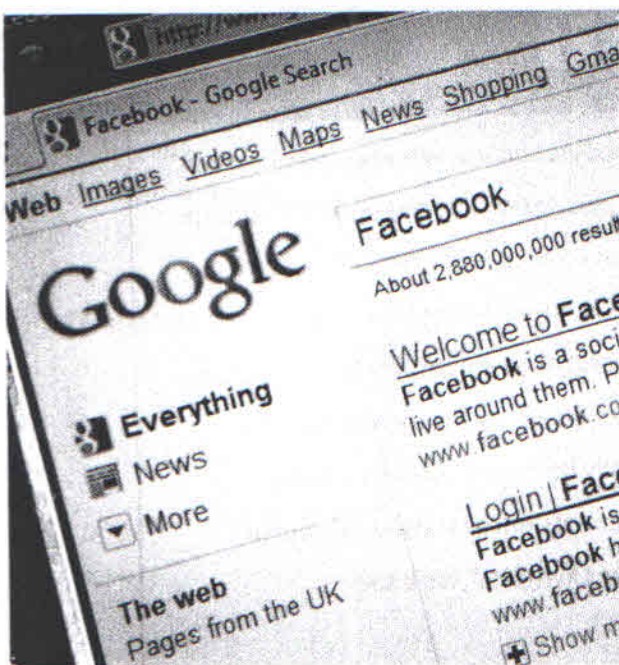
# The Global Village

## Reading

**1** You are going to read an article about the development of the internet. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A It is one of the biggest companies in the world.
- B But it wasn't at all user friendly.
- C Firstly, millions of people use email and social networking sites to keep in touch.
- D On the street, on the bus home, on the beach on holiday, everyone wants instant access.
- E They saw the potential in allowing computers to share information on research and development.
- F So, has the internet developed as far as it can?
- G The company was quick to introduce internet services, too.

## An Ever-Expanding Universe



We now use the internet on a daily basis: for work, for entertainment, and for communication. In fact it has become such an ordinary and essential part of our everyday lives that many of us forget just what a recent development it is.

The internet began to develop in the early 1960s when people working for the military and in universities started connecting computers. **1**  But it wasn't until 1969 that the first version of the internet, called ARPANET, was brought online. From then on, it began to develop at a steady pace.

In the early days, the internet was used by scientists, computer experts, engineers and librarians. **2**  No-one had PCs in their home or office and people had to learn very

# V Vocabulary

1 Complete the sentences using the words and phrases in the box.

global • telecommunications • turn over  
broadcast • headlines • up to date • images

- 1 I can't believe you didn't read about it in the papers. It made all the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 They \_\_\_\_\_ pictures of the earthquake on TV last night. It looked terrible!
- 3 My mother always tells me to \_\_\_\_\_ when a film on a particular channel is too violent.
- 4 The problem of poverty is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ one. There are poor people everywhere.
- 5 My grandfather reads a paper every day so that he can keep \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Modern \_\_\_\_\_ mean that information can be sent around the world in seconds.
- 7 The \_\_\_\_\_ that are sometimes shown on television can be very upsetting, but unfortunately they are part of reality.

complicated systems to be able to use it. Most ordinary people had never even heard of it.

The internet didn't really begin to take off until the early 1990s when the first commercial service offering internet access was introduced. Microsoft Corporation also helped the internet become more accessible to ordinary people by developing reliable home PCs. **3** Other businesses soon joined in, and the internet expanded very rapidly after that.

Now the internet is like a vast and ever-expanding arena that is used for almost every aspect of our lives. **4** In addition, you can find information on every subject under the sun on thousands of sites; and you can buy everything and anything, including your groceries, online.

**5** The answer is a definite NO! For one thing, the way we use the internet is changing. With the rise in use of devices such as smartphones and tablet PCs, people expect to be able to connect to the internet anywhere. **6** And the internet is getting faster, too, as more people demand multimedia with both sound and images.

There is probably no limit to the ways the internet will continue to develop. It will simply continue to keep changing, depending on what we need or demand from it.