# Internet Developments and Issues

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In **1993 the web browser Mosaic was launched**. Mosaic is credited with making the **Internet easily available to the general public**.

Ever since then, the Internet has **undergone constant change and development.** This section looks at some of these developments including **Web 2.0**, **blog**, **wikis**, **digital media uploading websites** and **social networking websites**.

# Uses of Blog's, wikis, digital media websites and social networks

## 1 Blog's (web logs)

A blog is a kind of **online journal** or **a log** where **'bloggers'** write about **topics that are important to them**.

Blog's can be about anything that the blogger wants to share with other Internet users and interesting Blog's can attract **millions of visitors**.

Some current popular Blog's include:

- **FAILBlog**
- **Mashable**
- **Engadget**
- **Huffington Post**
- **TMZ**

## 2 Wikis

Wikis are **interactive web pages** that can be **viewed and edited by users**.

Anyone with a web browser can visit a wiki and make **changes to the content**. This has both advantages and disadvantages as shown below:

| Advantage | Disadvantage |
|---|---|
| Information is quickly added as many people collaborate their knowledge. | One of the problems with letting everyone add to the wiki is that sometimes incorrect information is posted. |

The best known wiki on the web is probably Wikipedia.

## 3  Digital media sharing websites



Angus T. Jones Slams Two and a Half Men Commentary

These websites allow users to **upload video and images** which can then be **viewed by other people**.

Video sharing websites, in particular, are helping to **change the way in which we can learn on the Internet**. For example, YouTube has a huge amount of **'how to'** and **'tutorial'** videos for all sorts of topics.

One of the advantages of digital media websites is that the owners of the videos and images do not need to waste their own hard drive space storing them. The files are held **'remotely'** on the websites servers.

The best known video sharing website is YouTube and for images Flickr.

## 4  Social networking websites



facebook

These websites create **'communities' of people** who can share information about their **lives**, **interests** and **hobbies** with each other.

They also make it easy for people to **make new friends** and to **keep in touch with each other** no matter where they are in the world.

Common features of social networking websites include:

- **Status updates** - letting friends know what you have been up to
- **Message boards** - where groups of friends can post each other messages
- **Private email** - this allows people to send private messages
- **Video conferencing** - where you can have face-to-face chats using web cams.

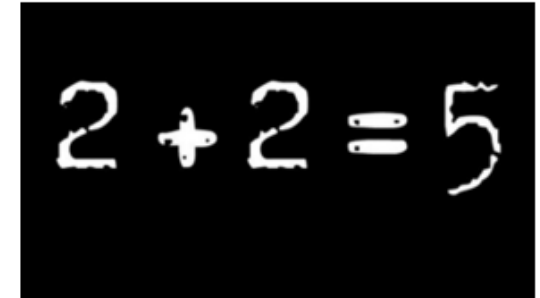The best know social networking websites are Facebook, Twitter and MySpace.

# Description of issues with the Internet regarding information

## 1 Unreliable information

Just because something is written on the Internet does not necessarily make it **true or correct**. **Anyone can make a website** and a lot of the information held on these websites is **never checked or verified**.

Wikis (like Wikipedia) allow anyone to change the information held on the site. This means that sometimes what is written is completely incorrect.

In fact, some websites **deliberately set out to fill their pages with incorrect information** just to cause a nuisance to people. Examples here and here.



### Ways to check that online information is correct

1. Use **well known websites** that you have heard of (bba, yahoo news etc).

2. Use **official websites** (band websites, football clubs etc).

3. **Verify the information by checking it on several different websites**. If each one says the same thing you can be sure its correct.

4. Try and **stay away from sites where just anyone can post the information** (like ask.com or answers.com).

5. Use websites that are **updated regularly**. Fake websites are not usually kept up to date as much.

**NOTE!**
The Internet is still an amazing tool for research. You just have to know how to use it!!!!

## **2** **Undesirable information**

Undesirable websites are those that include **content that is offensive to individuals or even races**. Undesirable content can include:

- **Pornography**
- **Violent videos or images**
- **Content promoting hatred**
- **Racial content**

We **cannot fully censor (block)** this type of content from the Internet as many of the sites are based in **Countries that do not have laws against it**. However you can take steps to reduce the chance of you accidentally stumbling across undesirable information:

### Ways to avoid undesirable information

1. Stick to **well known websites** that you have heard of.

2. Use **built-in search engine filters.** Google has a feature which will exclude search results that contain undesirable content.

3. Use **parental controls** which are built into most modern browsers. These block access to many undesirable websites.

# Health and Safety

Эрүүл мэнд, аюулгүй байдал

There are some problems that affect from computer.

# Health problems

- Repetitive Strain Injury
- Back and Neck Strain
- Eye strain and Headaches

# Prevent from these problems

### Repetitive Strain Injury

- Take breaks to rest your hands.
- Use an ergonomic keyboard/mouse.
- Arrange your workspace so you are not cramped.
- Use a wrist rest.



### Back and Neck Problems

- Take regular breaks to stretch your body.
- Use adjustable chairs so you can sit in a position suitable for your height.
- Sit upright against the back rest.
- Tilt the computer screen so it is set just below your eye level.
- Keep your feet flat on the floor.

### Eye Strain and Headaches

- Take regular breaks (every hour or so).
- Use LCD screens rather than CRT as they have less flicker.
- Use an anti-glare screen.
- Ensure that room lighting is good with no direct light causing glare on the screen.
- Keep the screen clean of dirt.
- Have eyes tested regularly.