

## THEME 8 DIGITAL ERA READING SKILL (SUNSHINE)

### **A. Read the text and put the paragraphs in order.**

\_\_\_ People invented the computer not to interact socially, but to solve a serious number crisis. In 1880, it took more than seven years to calculate the number of people living in the United States. The government found a faster way to do this job. They worked with punch-card based computers which were as big as the rooms at that time. The computer technology has improved a lot throughout centuries. First, in 1890, Herman Hollerith designed a punch card system to calculate the 1880 population. After that, in 1936, Alan Turing presented the notion of a universal machine, which was later called the Turing machine. His ideas were the basis for the modern computer.

\_\_\_ Finally, in 1990, Tim Berners-Lee, who is a researcher at CERN, developed Hypertext Markup Language (HTML). This was the beginning of the World Wide Web (www). Actually, 1996 is the year when WWW became available for everyone. 3 years later, with the Wi-Fi, users began connecting to the Internet without wires. These developments changed things a lot. People all over the world had the opportunity to communicate with each other, get news and do business online. Everybody knows that practice makes perfect. We don't know what will come next but everyone believes that it will be fascinating!

\_\_\_ Then, two professors, John Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert, built the ENIAC in 1943. People considered it as the grandfather of digital computers. Three years later, they built the first commercial computer for business and government applications. In 1958, Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce invented the computer chip. Then, in 1964, Douglas Engelbart presented a prototype of the modern computer with a mouse. Kilby got the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2000 for his work.

\_\_\_ With this development, things became faster. First, Paul Allen and Bill Gates established their famous company, in 1975. A year later, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak started their company and presented their first computer. They created many products in the following years.

### **B. Read the text again and answer the questions.**

1. Why did people invent the computer?
2. Do you think the evolution of the computer technology has been fast or not?
3. What makes Alan Turing important for computer technology?
4. When did the computer become available for general public?
5. Who are Bill Gates and Steve Jobs? How did they contribute to the computer technology?
6. What is the importance of the Internet for the evolution of the computer technology?

### **C. Read the text and insert the sentences.**

1. Online communication can be less embarrassing than talking face-to-face.
2. Some bad friends at school can harm their friends psychologically and socially online.
3. Some people may pretend like they are someone else, tell lies and deceive teens.
4. Today, there are a lot of teachers who have prepared blogs or wikis for their students to improve teaching and learning.
5. There is also the risk of less face-to-face interaction with family and friends.
6. This reduces their isolation and develops mutual support.

The social media phenomenon has taken today's youth culture by storm. Almost all teenagers who think social networking is cool use social media 24/7. At the same time, the parents of these tech-savvy teens have concerns about the dangers of this paradox.

### **What are the benefits?**

- With the help of social media, teenagers can have an access to educational blogs and beneficial study groups. a.\_\_\_\_\_.

- Social media helps teenagers improve and manage their social lives therefore it is an extension of their real-world friendships. Especially, for the shy teens, socializing online can be a comfortable way to communicate with his peers. b. \_\_\_\_\_ . This can develop their confidence and help them practice their social skills.
- Teenagers who have disabilities can communicate with other teens with similar problems. They can share their lives and interests. c. \_\_\_\_\_ .

### **What are the risks?**

Studies and surveys show that there are some certain risks of social media for teenagers.

- Teenagers can come across cyberbullying which is online bullying and harassment by peers. This is the biggest online danger to them. This occurs generally after bullying which takes place at school but can be just as damaging. d. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ . When social media becomes a habit for some of the teenagers, they may stay away from real communication because they feel more comfortable at home in front of their computers.
- Final risk is the con man who pretends to be someone else. Teenagers may believe in the people who they meet for the first time and this can create problems especially when this meeting is online. f. \_\_\_\_\_ .

All in all, there are several advantages and disadvantages of social media but the benefits and dangers depend on how teenagers use it!