

Young Brits on Internet 27 hours a week

16th May, 2015



A new survey in Britain reveals that young people spend over 27 hours a week online. This figure has trebled in the past decade. Britain's communications

watchdog Ofcom conducted the study on thousands of 16- to 24-year-olds as part of its Media Use and Attitudes 2015 report. Ofcom found that while most online content is still being accessed on computers, the proportion of access via mobile devices is rapidly catching up. Two thirds of adults now regularly use a smartphone or tablet. Online content has also changed considerably in the past ten years. Today, people are spending a lot more time on watching video clips, playing games, using instant messaging and checking social media accounts.

An industry expert, Toby Syfret, explained why more people are spending more time online. He said: "New technologies are opening up a myriad of other possibilities for young people. It's not just watching content. They're messaging friends and texting at the same time. Inevitably, as the younger generation gets older and they set up their own home, TV viewing consumption will be affected." Over a quarter of young people now watch TV shows and movies online instead of on televisions. Mr Syfret added: "A 40-inch television screen offers quality you can't get from a tablet or smartphone, so televisions are never going to become unimportant."

Sources: *Telegraph.co.uk / CBR Online / Newsweek.com*

Writing

There should be a time limit on Internet use so people can do useful things. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

a new survey / online / past decade / communications / attitudes / regularly / media / industry expert / new technologies / other possibilities / television screen / tablet

True / False

- The 27 hours a week is twice that from a decade ago. T / F
- Researchers interviewed thousands of 20-29-year-olds. T / F
- Most online content is now being accessed on mobile devices. T / F
- Around two-thirds of British adults often use a mobile device. T / F
- An industry expert spoke of a myriad of possibilities. T / F
- The expert said young people are just watching content online. T / F
- More than 25% of young people watch TV and movies online. T / F
- The expert said TVs would never be unimportant. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1. survey | a. frequently |
| 2. reveals | b. for sure |
| 3. trebled | c. greatly |
| 4. regularly | d. shows |
| 5. considerably | e. multitude |
| 6. expert | f. study |
| 7. myriad | g. provides |
| 8. inevitably | h. specialist |
| 9. instead of | i. increased three-fold |
| 10. offers | j. rather than |

Discussion – Student A

- What would life be like without the Internet?
- How would you describe your Internet use?
- Is 27 hours a week too much?
- What do you think if this figure trebled again in the next decade?
- What is the problem of spending too long online?
- Is it better to access the Internet via a computer or tablet?
- What do you use the Internet for?
- What are the bad things about using the Internet too much?

BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. This figure has trebled | a. expert |
| 2. most online content is still being | b. generation |
| 3. Two thirds | c. the past ten years |
| 4. changed considerably in | d. time online |
| 5. instant | e. can't get from a tablet |
| 6. industry | f. in the past decade |
| 7. spending more | g. of other possibilities |
| 8. opening up a myriad | h. messaging |
| 9. the younger | i. of adults |
| 10. quality you | j. accessed on computers |

Discussion – Student B

- Do you ever get fed up with the Internet?
- How is life for young people better with the Internet?
- What more will we be able to do online in the future?
- Do you prefer watching TV shows on a tablet or TV?
- What do you think of surfing online on a TV?
- What do you think of accessing the Internet on a smart watch?
- What would happen if you went a week without the Internet?
- What questions would you like to ask the researcher?

Spelling

- This figure has eetlbrd in the past decade
- being ccdseesa on computers
- the torroinppo of access via mobile devices
- galruyerl use a smartphone
- changed seiycnordbla in the past ten years
- social media ccnoasut
- An industry pertex
- opening up a drimay of other possibilities
- elnyvaIbit, as the younger generation...
- notmoicsnpu will be affected
- Over a atqrreu of young people
- iquaty you can't get from a tablet

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. a	5. c
6. h	7. e	8. b	9. j	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Google

You think Google is the best website. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sites aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): Facebook, SnapChat or BreakingNewsEnglish.

Role B – Facebook

You think Facebook is the best website. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sites aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): Google, SnapChat or Breaking News English.

Role C – SnapChat

You think SnapChat is the best website. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sites aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): Facebook, Google or Breaking News English.

Role D – BreakingNewsEnglish.com

You think BreakingNewsEnglish is the best website. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sites aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): Facebook, SnapChat or Google.

Speaking – Sites

Rank these websites with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| • Google | • Instagram |
| • Twitter | • Yahoo! |
| • eBay | • SnapChat |
| • Facebook | • MSN |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	F	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.