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SCIENCE ISSUES TODAY
今日科学聚焦
Inside the Internet
漫游因特网
CATHERINE STEPHENS （美）著
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北京 BEIJING

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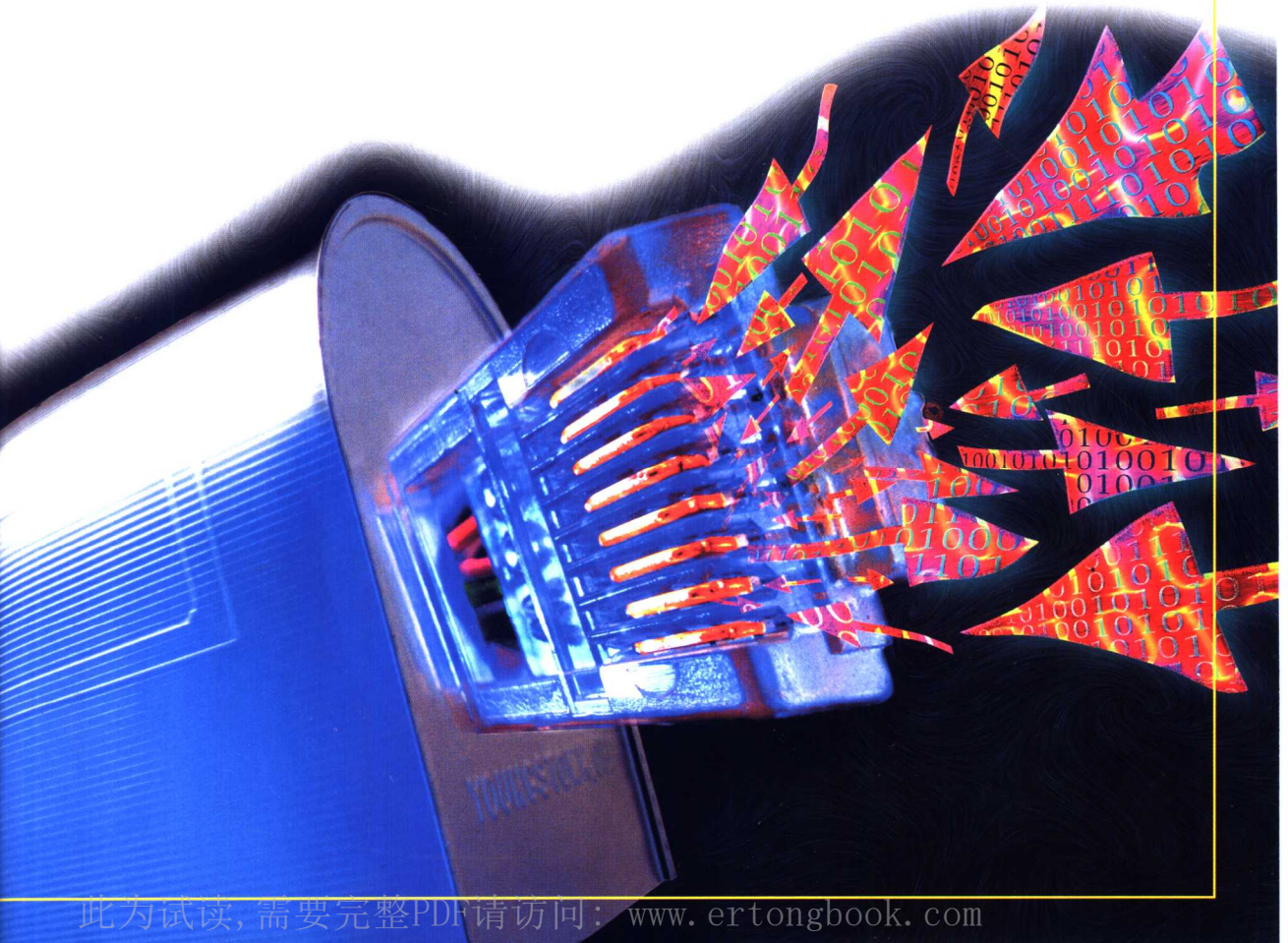

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Point

Millions of people around the world connect to the Internet each day. Its influence[1] is powerful[2] and widespread[3]. How is the Internet changing our world?

For one thing, it is changing the speed at which we do things. Want to send a letter to England? Send an e-mail and *zip*[4], it's there. Need to write a report on Amelia Earhart[5]? Type her name on an Internet search screen, and *zip*, information about her pops up[6]. Zip, zip ... point and click. That's the speed of Internet time.

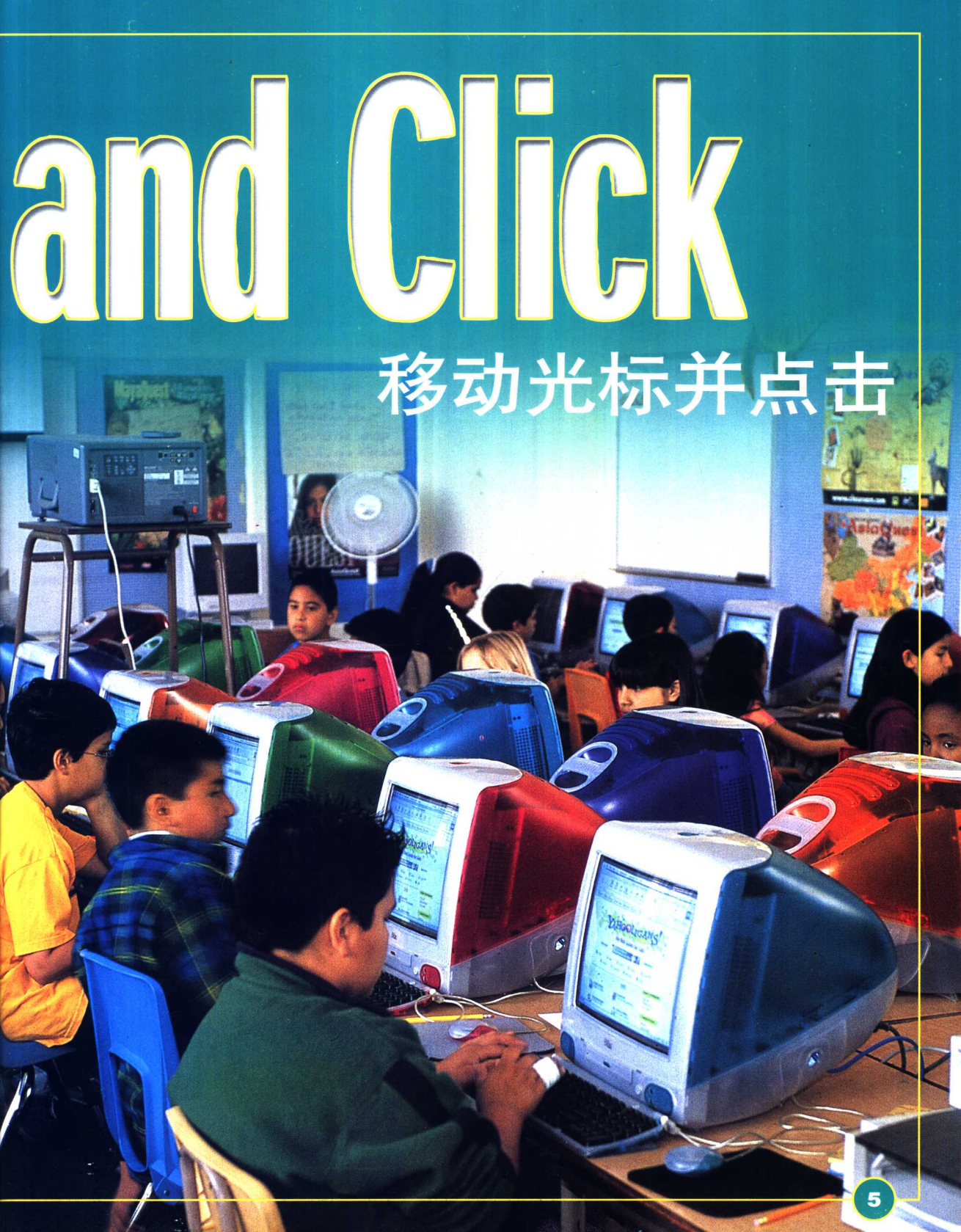
The Internet delivers[7] a lot more than speed. You can find games, chat rooms[8], and newspapers from around the world. These are only a small sample of what's online[9]. The Internet can be a fun and exciting place to spend a few hours. But using the Internet also involves[10] a few risks[11].

In this book we'll journey inside the Internet. How did it begin? How does it affect[12] you? We'll explore[13] its promise and take a look at a few of its problems.

1.	influence	*n.*	影响		
2.	powerful	*adj.*	强大的		
3.	widespread	*adj.*	广泛的		
4.	zip	*v.*	压缩(文件)		
5.	Amelia Earhart		阿米莉亚·埃尔哈特(美国女飞行员)		
6.	pop up		弹出		
7.	deliver	*v.*	传送		
8.	chat room		聊天室		
9.	online	*adj.*	联机的		
10.	involve	*v.*	包括		
11.	risk	*n.*	风险		
12.	affect	*v.*	影响		
13.	explore	*v.*	探索		

and Click

移动光标并点击



.com.com.com.com.com

How Well Are We Doing?

Good News

- The Internet contains[1] huge amounts[2] of information. There is material[3] on almost any topic[4].
- Information on the Internet is linked[5] together. It's not just a pile[6] of documents[7]. That means each person can follow different paths[8] into and through the information.
- E-mail makes it easy for people to communicate[9] and keep in touch[10].
- Citizens[11] around the world can use the Internet to speak to a global[12] audience[13].

Bad News

- Information on the Internet can be misleading[14] and inaccurate[15].
- Using the Internet involves risks, such as exposure[16] to strangers and to inappropriate[17] material.
- Some people spend too much time on the Internet, leaving little time for friends and other activities[18].
- Not everyone has a computer or Internet access[19]. Many people don't have the resources[20] to be part of the Internet community[21].

1.	contain	*v.*	包含
2.	amount	*n.*	数量
3.	material	*n.*	材料
4.	topic	*n.*	话题
5.	link	*v.*	链接
6.	pile	*n.*	一堆
7.	document	*n.*	文件
8.	path	*n.*	路径
9.	communicate	*v.*	沟通；通信
10.	keep in touch		保持联络
11.	citizen	*n.*	公民
12.	global	*adj.*	全球的
13.	audience	*n.*	观众
14.	misleading	*adj.*	令人误解的
15.	inaccurate	*adj.*	不准确的
16.	exposure	*n.*	暴露
17.	inappropriate	*adj.*	不适当的
18.	activity	*n.*	活动
19.	access	*n.*	访问权；使用权
20.	resource	*n.*	资源
21.	community	*n.*	团体
22.	superhighway	*n.*	超级(高速)公路

Because so much information travels over the Internet, many people call it the "information superhighway[22]."

Past and Present

过去与现在

Getting Connected

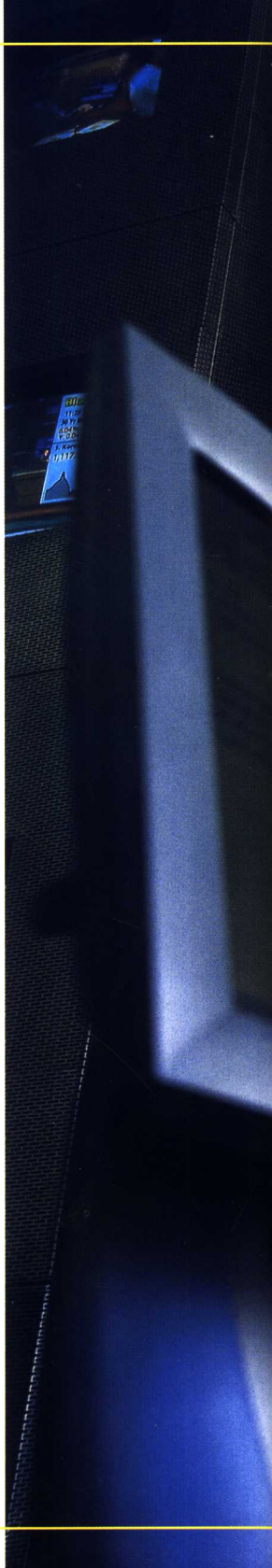
连接上网

Who created[1] the Internet? When did it get started? How did the Internet get so popular[2] so fast?

The Internet got its start in the 1960s. The U.S. government[3] asked a team of scientists to design[4] an attack-proof[5] network[6] of computers. And the scientists did it. They invented a way for computers in different parts of the U.S. to "talk" to each other. The Internet was born!

In its early days the Internet was very small. It involved a few computers at U.S. military sites[7] and universities[8]. In those days not many people owned computers. They were big and expensive. That changed when the personal computer[9] was invented in the late 1970s. Computers started showing up[10] everywhere. During the next 20 years, the small network of computers that had formed the Internet grew. Soon thousands, then millions of computers around the world became part of the Internet.

1. create	*v.*	创造	8. university	*n.*	大学
2. popular	*adj.*	受欢迎的	9. personal computer		个人电脑
3. government	*n.*	政府	10. show up		出现
4. design	*v.*	设计	11. trade	*v.*	交易
5. attack-proof	*adj.*	防攻击的	12. stock	*n.*	股票
6. network	*n.*	网络	13. Los Angeles		洛杉矶
7. military site		军事基地	14. California		加利福尼亚州



This team of scientists designed the network of computers that later became the Internet.

This man uses the Internet to trade[11] stocks[12] online from an office in Los Angeles[13], California[14].

(注释见第 8 页)

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Tim Berners-Lee

Spinning[1] the Web

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic Ocean[2], scientist Tim Berners-Lee was trying to solve[3] a problem. He was working at a large research center[4] in Switzerland[5]. And he was having a hard time keeping track of[6] the many scientists and projects[7]. Berners-Lee decided he needed to organize[8] the information. He didn't want the names and projects to be in a long list. He wanted the information displayed[9] as a web, with connections branching out[10] in different directions—much like a spider[11]'s web. So he wrote a computer program[12] to organize and link the information in a web. This program could show the many ways that the different scientists and projects were related[13].

Tim Berners-Lee understood the power of connecting information. He wondered if he could connect the information stored[14] on the world's Internet computers. Tim Berners-Lee designed a system[15] that allowed people to put information on the Internet and link it to information on other computers. He called his invention the World Wide Web[16].

1.	spin	*v.*	结(网)	9.	display	*v.*	显示
2.	Atlantic Ocean		大西洋	10.	branch out		扩展
3.	solve	*v.*	解决	11.	spider	*n.*	蜘蛛
4.	research center		研究中心	12.	program	*n.*	程序
5.	Switzerland		瑞士	13.	related	*adj.*	相关的
6.	keep track of		记录	14.	store	*v.*	存储
7.	project	*n.*	课题；科研项目	15.	system	*n.*	系统
8.	organize	*v.*	使有条理	16.	World Wide Web		环球信息网

Surfing[1] the Web

The World Wide Web (or Web, for short) lets you view[2] information on the Internet in many ways. Web pages often combine[3] text, pictures, and sound. Some even have video or 3-D[4] images[5]. Web pages also let you click words or images and link to other related information. These links are called hyperlinks[6]. For example, on a website about dinosaurs[7], you might be able to click the word extinct[8] to read theories[9] about how dinosaurs became extinct. When you surf the Web, you click hyperlinks to move through Web pages and check out[10] topics that interest you.

In 1993 the Internet had about 130 websites[11]. Today there are millions. Large and small businesses[12], universities, governments, schools, libraries, and even individuals[13] have their own websites. The Internet has websites with information on almost any topic you can imagine[14]. Special[15] software[16] programs, called search engines[17], look through[18] the information and help you find what you need.

Hyperlinks

Some hyperlinks appear[1] as underlined[2] words. When you click the words, information about that topic will appear.

(注释见第 13 页)

1. surf	*v.*	在……冲浪	12. business	*n.*	公司
2. view	*v.*	观看	13. individual	*n.*	个人
3. combine	*v.*	结合	14. imagine	*v.*	想像
4. 3-D	*adj.*	三维的	15. special	*adj.*	特别的
5. image	*n.*	图像	16. software	*n.*	软件
6. hyperlink	*n.*	超级链接	17. search engine		搜索引擎
7. dinosaur	*n.*	恐龙	18. look through		浏览
8. extinct	*adj.*	灭绝的	19. string	*n.*	字符串
9. theory	*n.*	理论，学说	20. Uniform Resource Locator		统一资源定位符
10. check out		查看	21. identify	*v.*	识别
11. website	*n.*	网站	22. section	*n.*	部分

...what that string[19] of letters is in a Web address?

The string is called a Uniform Resource Locator[20], or URL. The URL identifies[21] a website's computer and file names. In the URL, *http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/index.html*, the "nationalgeographic.com" is the Internet name for the computer that contains National Geographic's website. The rest of the string identifies the files on this computer that contain the kids' section[22].

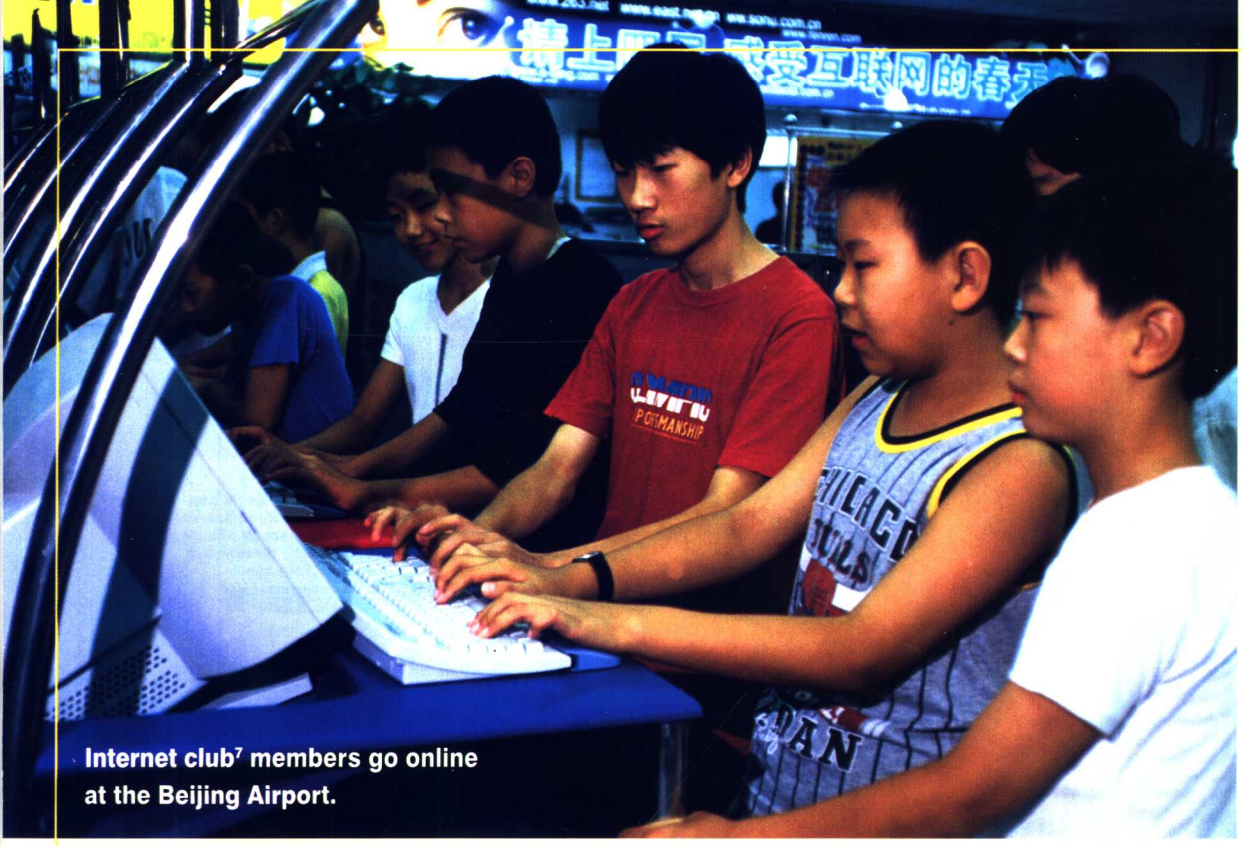
Search Engine

A search engine helps you find the information you need by looking through many sites for your topic.

Hyperlinks

Some hyperlinks appear as words in boxes. Other hyperlinks appear as pictures. Here's one way you can tell if a word or an image is a hyperlink. When you move the arrow[3] on your screen over a hyperlink, the arrow often will change into the shape of a hand.

1.	appear	*v.*	出现
2.	underline	*v.*	加下划线
3.	arrow	*n.*	箭头



Internet club[7] members go online at the Beijing Airport.

A World of Things to Do

Okay, so you've searched the Web and found answers to all your homework questions. What else can you do on the Internet? Each day many people communicate on the Internet. You can send electronic mail, or e-mail, to friends in your neighborhood[1] or around the world. Send an instant[2] message if you want your words to reach[3] someone more quickly. The Internet also has chat rooms that let you type messages back and forth[4] with people who are on the Internet at the same time as you. Newsgroups[5] are places where you can post messages. Like putting a message on a bulletin board[6] at school, you can post a message in a newsgroup for many people to read.

1.	neighborhood	*n.*	邻近地区	5.	newsgroups	*n.*	新闻组
2.	instant	*adj.*	即时的	6.	bulletin board		公告牌
3.	reach	*v.*	到达	7.	club	*n.*	俱乐部
4.	back and forth		来回地				

If you like games, you can find hundreds of them on the Internet. Some games are for one player. Others are for many players. With some games, you could find yourself playing against someone from a different country.

There's even more you can explore on the Internet. You can find a pen pal[1] or download[2] a picture or song from your favorite[3] music group. You can sell a used bike or buy a new sweater[4]. You can take an online class, join a club, or even set up your own website.

Word Power

The word *emoticons*[5] comes from the verb *emote*[6], which means "to give expression to emotions." Sometimes it's fun to use emoticons in e-mail messages. Emoticons express your emotions and are formed by typing a sequence[7] of keyboard[8] characters. Here are a few.

:-) = A happy face to show you're smiling
;-) = A wink[9] to show you're joking around
:-D = A great big smile to show you're very happy
:-I = A straight face[10] to show you're bored[11]

Or, try some online shorthand[12].
G2G = Got to go
BRB = Be right back
TMOT = Trust[13] me on this
LOL = Laughing out loud
BFN = Bye for now

1.	pen pal		笔友
2.	download	*v.*	下载
3.	favorite	*adj.*	特别喜爱的
4.	sweater	*n.*	毛衣
5.	emoticon	*n.*	情感符
6.	emote	*v.*	表达感情
7.	sequence	*n.*	一连串
8.	keyboard	*n.*	键盘
9.	wink	*n.*	眨眼
10.	straight face		板着的脸
11.	bored	*adj.*	厌烦的
12.	shorthand	*n.*	速记
13.	trust	*v.*	信任

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