

Report 3(a)

Impact of ICT on the way Students do things at home and at college/school.

Introduction:

Technology has changed the way the community works. They are more included in people's everyday life activities. Technology has developed in various ways, for example televisions have transformed from old black and white sets to colored plasma sets. Technology has become the driving force of change in the modern world. It has altered our economic structures and the ways we communicate.

Email:

The first technology I am going to evaluate is going to be on emailing. Electronic mail, abbreviated e-mail or email, is a method of composing, sending, and receiving messages over electronic communication systems. The term e-mail applies both to the Internet e-mail system based on the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) and to intranet systems allowing users within one company or organization to send messages to each other. In order for the messaging to work, both the receiver and the sender need an email account. Often these workgroup collaboration systems natively use non-standard protocols but have some form of gateway to allow them to send and receive Internet e-mail. Some organizations may use the Internet protocols for internal e-mail service.

Advantages:

The advantages of E-Mail are that the messages are quick and easy to send (within seconds you can send and receive E-Mail); they are great for socialising, personal and work related needs and is also ideal for communicating to people over long range distances. E-Mail can be sent anywhere in the world and best of all... It is completely free over the personal Computer (Hotmail, Yahoo mail, G-Mail etc).

Disadvantages:

The disadvantages of E-mail are that not everyone has equipment to send and receive e-mail. However, with Internet access available from televisions, landline phones and mobile phones it could soon take over from traditional paper-based mail. E-mails are not as secure as traditional letters because they can be accessed by 'hackers'. The equipment needed to send and receive e-mail is expensive compared with traditional methods of communication.

Personal:

Email meets my needs personally in three different ways. Firstly, I can use it as a way of communicating with my friends and family for free. This is good because I use email a lot and if emailing wasn't free then it would cost me a lot to pay. Secondly, I have signed up to a music website which sends me an email every few weeks about the new releases of songs. This lets me catch up on my music so that I'm not behind. Lastly, I occasionally use it as a storage system when I forget to bring in my USB disk, I email the files to myself as an attachment and then I can access them from home, which is really efficient and easy.

Social:

You can send letters to friends and family, photos without reprints.
 Arranging and publicising events for community and social groups. Mass mailing documents, for example sending your CV's to agencies or employees.
 Making contact and keeping in touch with others of similar interests.
 Generating interest in and feedback enquires from your community group websites. Obtaining further information from Internet websites, usually via a link from that website directly to your e-mail address.

Work related

I can firstly send school work or files to myself as an attachment and then access those files from another computer mainly my home. I use E-Mail as a way of being contacted also. Furthermore, I recently signed up to the Arsenal Football Club's website and they will now continually email me on news updates or new transfers to the club etc. This is great because I can access the information that I want without having to scroll through the actual website to do so. Email then is great for me personally because I can keep in touch with my favorite football team and they can give me offers

over email, however it is also bad because I have to access the internet frequently to check my Email. This is bad because I have a brother and two sisters who need to have their time on the internet also. This means I have very little time and also very little days in which I can access my e-mail. This then leads me to miss out on any special offers I may have been interested in. I have not got WAP activated on my mobile phone because it costs too much for me.

Technology 2:

A mobile phone or cell(ular) phone is an electronic telecommunications device. Most current mobile phones connect to a network using wireless radio wave transmission technology (the exception are satellite phones). These mobile phones communicate via a cellular network of base stations, which is linked to the conventional telephone network. Mobile phones were introduced in the mid to late 1980's and were named the 1G generation, this meant that phones could only be used for speaking without any other features such as text messages, music or video. In the last twenty years the mobile phone has gone from an expensive, rare item, mainly used by rich people, to a basic necessity for most people, young and old. Especially in developing countries where there is a lack of landlines, it is cheaper to own a mobile phone than to get a landline installed.

Advantages:

Advantages of Mobile Phones are they are small. Able to pick up signal easily nowadays to receive calls and text messages. Wide range of phones with different features. Convenient and practical for emergencies and for business-related communication.

Disadvantages:

Although the general cost of a mobile phone calls are fairly low, some tariffs are still rather high. The charge is usually higher when you call from one mobile service provider to another or if you are a low user or you phone at the most expensive time, etc. There are possible medical problems for those who overuse their mobiles e.g. headaches. Mobile phones may be considered a nuisance when used in public places. For someone sitting on a train trying to

read a book the last thing they would want is to hear people around them shouting into a mobile phone.

Personal:

Mobile Phones fulfil my personal needs in different ways. Having a mobile phone means that you can reach people wherever you are, and they can reach you. A mobile phone can add to personal security. By having a Mobile Phone I am able to contact my parents may encourage if I am in trouble, lost or need a lift. I can also access WAP and download games and play them. But having a mobile phone can also provoke criminals to attack me.

Social:

Mobiles help me at socially as I can text my friends and ask for help. This is better than using the house phone because my parents don't like it when I talk for long on the phone as the bill goes up. Text messaging has become very popular. For a low charge you are able to send a message to anyone with a mobile phone. This is easier and quicker than telephoning, writing or e-mailing and you can do it from almost anywhere. It also has the advantage that it makes no noise and will not disturb anyone.

Work related.

My mobile phone helps me out in a number of ways according to work related needs. It has a scientific calculator in its applications, which is most handy for school when I forget my original one. This is because it helps me to do my regular calculations as I would have done on my normal calculator, if I had remembered to bring it in. I can also keep a list of my incoming exam dates on an application called tasks which helps me to keep a balanced schedule for revision, and it also tells me on the day of my exam, the notes that I have written for it. Sometimes I am given a timed essay to do for my homework from school. I usually don't keep track of the time therefore I cannot do the essay in a fair condition. This is where I can set a time on my timer on my mobile phone. When the time is up it usually signals by ringing with a loud and noticeable ring tone, which allows me to do the essay in a fair way.

Technolog3:

A USB flash drive is essentially a NAND-type flash memory included with a USB 1.1 or 2.0 interface. It is used as a small, lightweight, removable data storage device of up to 16 GB, but can also range from smaller memories. USB flash drives are also known as "pen drives", "chip sticks", "thumb drives", "flash drives", "USB keys" and a wide variety of other names. They are also sometimes incorrectly called memory sticks, which is a Sony trademark describing their proprietary memory card system. A flash drive consists of a small printed circuit board encased in a strong and long-lasting plastic or metal casing, making the drive sturdy enough to be carried about in a pocket, as a keychain, or on a lanyard. Only the USB connector protrudes from this protection, and is usually covered by a removable cap. Most flash drives feature the standard type-A USB connection allowing them to be connected directly to a port on a computer. Some small drives have been made with a thin plug designed to assist with a standard USB port, but these are very rare.

Advantages:

Advantages of Portable hard drives are_ Very quick file transfer. Requires very little technical know-how. High capacity. Good portability (i.e. can be integrated into an everyday pen or a tag on a keychain). Widely accessible (vast majority of OSs [Operating Systems] support the Plug and Play feature)

Disadvantages:

The disadvantages of a USB Memory Stick are that they do not have security precautions if you were to lose it, meaning anyone else could plug it in the device into their computer and read your files. As they are so easily portable they are not suitable for storing highly confidential material, unless additional precautions are taken to encrypt the data. A USB Memory Stick is quite expensive, very fragile and small. It could also then get lost or misplaced very easily – something that would be harder for a floppy disk or CD to do.

Personal:

Since I frequently have to transfer multimedia files to my laptop, burn programs and data onto CDs and watch DVDs at home, I require various forms of storage media in each case. For instance, if I would have to show a

person a video (too large to fit in a diskette, yet too small to be spent on burning to CD) I would use a USB pen drive, for example, and be able to appreciate its Plug and Play system. This would apply to music, when I would burn tracks onto CD and allowing me to use a stereo to play my music at leisure

Social:

A USB Memory Stick meets my social needs in some ways. I can take pictures and videos and take them to my family and friends house, and I can use it to receive help with homework. Simply, I can put in music files etc, give them to friends and they can then easily acquire the data without having to download videos or get them independently. But the videos I send are quite large in size, and my USB space is relatively small. Therefore, to send all the files I need to, I have to keep exchanging the USB with friends or family back and forth. If I had a large capacity USB memory stick then I could send all the files in one go.

Work-related:

It meets my work related needs as most of the time I tend to save the important work I have done at school, on my USB, just encase my saved work at home gets deleted on my computer. I often do this at school as well, just to make sure again that the work I do doesn't get interrupted or gets closed without me saving it. Most of the time though I use it to save my work, especially coursework, from school so that I can finish it off at home.