

The impact of ICT on the way you do things at home and at school

In this essay I will now explain how ICT has affected my life. I will now explain how I use ICT in my life and how it has helped me. I will explain my first four important ICT applications that help me make my life easier. These are the Internet, E-mail, Messenger and Word Processing. These help me in all ways such as perfecting my homework help me get in touch with friends and family. ICT is used everywhere in life such as my home which are in many electronics such as DVD, Digital Television, Mp3's. ICT has made my life such easier and has had a very big impact because it gives me a better understanding of how things work in life.

Home/School personal Microsoft Word Software

Word processing has made me perfected in my presentation in my school work such as coursework and homework and writing letters. A word processor is a program which lets you write a piece of writing using tools such as spell check, dictionary, thesaurus which you can access in a click of a button. To word process you will need to use a keyboard which has the whole alphabet and numbers which you press make words on the computer screen. Since I have used a keyboard for a long time I keep on improving by typing skills which helps me write letters very quickly. By using a keyboard is very faster than using a pen and paper which is why I greatly use word processing. Another reason I use word processing is that if you were writing a letter you have made a mistake you will have to use tipex to clear your mistake but with a computer you can erase any mistake without the use of tipex which helps your presentation. Another reason I use word processing is that you can print as many copies of your work without the need of rewriting your piece of writing.

To do my word processing you will need to use a program. I use Microsoft Word. It is the most popular word processing program on the market. I use word because I have much experience on how to use it this because it is everywhere such as my school. It has all the facilities and tools which I use. I find the program very useful but it does have mistakes such as if I were to write a piece of sentence which had a double comma it would not pick it up. To overcome this problem I will always proof read my work to correct mistakes before printing it off.

Sometimes there are things that you wish to write that Word does not approve of. It thinks you have made a grammatical mistake and tries to correct it for you. This is highly annoying, as you know what you wish to say and you may have said it in a way that you know is right.

The biggest advantage of Microsoft Word is that if I was doing my homework and the computer suddenly crashes. I will then have to reset the computer and type my work all again. The advantage of Word is that it has an Auto Recovery facility which means it will make temporary saves while you have doing your work which means when you load Microsoft Word again after restarting the computer it will let you be able to open the document without the need of you typing the document up again.

Home social Yahoo Messenger Software

Yahoo messenger is a program which lets you to communicate to other people on the internet such as friends and family in real time. It lets you communicate to people using the keyboard. You can communicate to individual people by adding there contact which is an e-mail address to the program, so that when they go online on yahoo messenger you can now speak to them. There is also a chartroom which lets you speak to people from all over the world.

Yahoo Messenger is a text-based program but lets you types words by using the keyboard but there is also the microphone technology which means you speak and hear each other by talking in a microphone and using the speakers to hear what the other person had said. This facility is very useful which helps you hear what the other person sounds like and you don't have to use the keyboard to get your message across. There is also the facility of you send files to each other such as work, music and pictures. It is secure to transfer files but the downside it that they could be sending a picture which could be containing a virus or Trojan. The way they could improve this is by msn using a virus blocker which means it scans the file before you receive it. This way Yahoo Messenger would be a greatly secure and encourage more people to try the program.

Another function available to you through Yahoo Messenger is to have a net meeting with more than one person, this could be text based, verbal or you can use web cams to see the person you are chatting to. I have never used this function, as I do not have a web cam.

I use Yahoo Messenger whenever I am on the internet and if I am busy, I can still be signed into MSN and have a (busy) sign put next to my name so it discourages people from talking to me. There is an available option where I can appear offline. To other users, these acts as a cloaking device, hiding my presence on Yahoo Messenger, however I am still logged in and can monitor who there is online and whether I wish to appear online to talk to them. This is a very good function as I can use this when I wish to be logged on and still do homework. I think that Yahoo Messenger is overall an excellent program and has greatly improved my typing skills.

Yahoo Messenger has also helped me in other ways than getting the message across. In one situation I did not have a printer and had to send to file to my friend via messenger to tell him to print my work.

Yahoo Messenger is a great program and I can not find a problem with it because it meets my criteria.

Over the past three years I have had no major problems with this service and it has provided a last minute lifeline for many of my printer disasters. It has helped me and my family to keep in touch with people who we might have lost contact with otherwise. We use MSN to keep in touch with people in India and New Zealand without the need of a phone.

There are alternatives to MSN. However these methods of communication are not as reliable as MSN or email. There is the option of Mail which is usually quite reliable and

could be used if Messenger is not available, however you have no confirmation that the recipient got the letter, whereas with MSN you get a reply instantly or at least confirmation that the message has been sent. Another way of communication is the phone but this can be relatively expensive to call my relatives in India however Yahoo Messenger is free with an Internet connection.

School/Home personal

The Internet

The internet is the new library to me because it contains far more information than anything else. The information have provided me to do my coursework and homework questions. The internet is a good way of doing your shopping without the need of moving but on the other hand it is better go out there to get exercise instead of looking into the computer screen, this is why I only buy things because I can buy the same product on the market. One time I bought a computer game for my friend from the Internet and saved £15. It shows how the internet can find bargains for me and my friends. Also buying from the internet you have to be aware if the web site you are buying from is trusted and that you are conned. This is why I shop when looking for a product and use well known websites such the ones that are advertised on the TV so that I am guaranteed to receive my product that I paid for. I also like to use the internet to download my games. I download games because they are free and something that you can do in your spare time. When download anything I have to be aware of any copyright issues that I agree to when downloading anything. Copyright issues in this case could be that I am not able to sell the game or alter it.

The internet is usually a reasonable speed, however there are days when the browser will not open and on some days it is agonisingly slow. This could be improved by upgrading my connection to broadband. However this would cost a lot of money. The internet is a very good way of getting a source of information and also for communicating through features such as email.

To use the Internet you will need a Internet browser that lets you type in the web address there are many different browser on the market which are available for you to download. I have been using a browser called Opera. I use this browser than any browser because it is relatively quick to load the web pages. The speed of the internet and how webpage's load faster depends on how on what speed you have got. I also use Opera because if you had many webpage's loaded up you can just have it in one browser which you have several tabs depending on how webpage's you have loaded up. Another feature of Opera is that if you have websites loaded up and the computer crashed it will let you load what websites you had on last. This helps me because if I had an important piece of information and the computer crashes I would have no worry because it will save the next time I load up Opera.

On the internet you can search whatever you want however in a book you have to find the book and then find the piece of information which is needed which this is why I never visit the library when you got a fast and more accurate facility such as the Internet

Home social Mobile Phones Communication

A mobile phone is a way of communicating anybody without the need to be connected to anything.

I have a Sony Ericsson T610 I use it in many ways such as sms. Sms is a way to get the message across in words without the need of speaking to the person. I use sms because it is cheap and economical way of having a conversation with my friends. I use it to communicate with my friends to ask him such questions like what he has been doing on the weekend. Or what time I am meeting him at the cinemas? I phone in emergencies such as to keep in contact with parents or phone people who do not have mobiles. My phone has games which I use when waiting for a bus etc. This helps me to keep busy when I catching the bus or on the train. I phone has the capability to take photos. This feature helps me e.g. take pictures of mp3 player to show my parents. This phone has all the facilities and features that I want. There are other phones on the market which are more expensive which has more features such as to record movies. I would not buy this phone because I would hardly record movies and it does not meet my criteria because it does not play games.

Home Personal Digital TV Entertainment

Digital TV sends information in a different way to traditional television. This means hundreds of channels can be squeezed in and pictures can be sent much quicker. There are different sorts of digital TV.

I like to watch a variety of channels that why I have got sky plus. I like to watch sport, music and movies and sky plus have them all. The advantage of sky compared to terrestrial TV it has a bigger range of channels and the picture quality is excellent this means I enjoy it more. With terrestrial there are only 5 channels and therefore limited viewing. I always like to catch up with the latest sporting headlines and sky has interactive features so that when the full time whistle has been blown at the football grounds I can instantly see the scores via the interactive but with terrestrial I would have to wait longer. The biggest advantage of sky plus is that I can set it to record a program and that I can watch it later. This is a big advantage because when I go to play football I always miss my favourite sitcom, so I set it to record so that I can watch it when I get back. The disadvantage of sky plus is that that picture is received via a satellite and that when there is bad weather the signal decreases and you don't receive a picture. This is a real disappointment because I would miss my programs and would not always meet my needs.

CONCLUSION

ICT has changed my life extremely over the years. As the years go by ICT keeps to be improving and becoming more advanced. As ICT keeps on progressing the world will be relying on computers and eventually everyone one will have a computer. ICT is a great and enjoyable way of communicating and it is important that everyone will know how to use ICT because ICT will dictate everyday life.