Web navigation

1 The internet contains more than just the World Wide Web, but the web is still a huge mass of information. It contains countless websites, each having many web pages. To look for web pages people use special computer programs. This is called navigating the web.

Browsers and engines

5 Web navigators first need a program called a browser. Internet Explorer is a well-known example. Browsers display web pages on a computer screen so that the information is easy to read. But how do navigators find the web pages they want the browser to show? For this, they open a program called a search engine. Internet Explorer has its own search engine, called Live Search, opened by clicking the button on the Explorer toolbar. However, Google is the most popular search engine.

A search engine opens a text box on the screen. Words typed into the box tell the engine what to look for. The search words must be specific or the browser will find pages on the wrong subjects. The search engine has to be clever too. Google became popular because it could make good guesses about which webpages will have the best information.

Once a user has visited a web page, the browser can return to that page by shortcuts, located on its menu bar or toolbar. The back and forward buttons retrace the steps taken in one search session. The history and favourites buttons lead back to pages visited by the user in past sessions.

Website and web page tools

20 Some websites have their own search engine, one that finds only pages on that website. The web pages themselves also contain navigation tools, called hyperlinks. Hyperlinks usually appear on the screen as blue-coloured and underlined words. Clicking these words makes the browser go somewhere on the web to a specific web page with more information. The new web page might have more hyperlinks, and so it is possible to travel from one page to another by following the links.
# Web navigation

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1. *The internet contains more than just the World Wide Web* (line 1).
   In this sentence, what does *contains* mean?
   - restrain
   - convey
   - encase
   - include

2. *This is called navigating the web* (lines 3–4). The word *This* refers to a
   - way of using a computer.
   - process for downloading.
   - huge mass of information.
   - special computer program.

3. What does a browser like Internet Explorer do? (lines 5–7)
   - lists your computer’s files
   - makes web pages visible
   - searches for web pages
   - sets a good example

4. By typing words into a search engine’s text box (lines 11–15), we tell it to
   - list precise search words for any subject.
   - find pages matching our search words.
   - search for popular words on the web.
   - guess what our search words mean.

5. Of the following conclusions, which fits the information in *Browsers and engines*?
   (lines 5–19) Websites need search engines for the same reason that books need
   - catalogues.
   - bookshops.
   - libraries.
   - readers.
6. A web navigator finds the Smithtown Library website by typing the library’s name and other words in a search box. To find it again quickly next day, the user should click
- back.
- history.
- search.
- forward.

7. Read the example of a webpage.

The part labelled 1 is the title bar. In this picture, it tells the names of the
- websites containing Internet Explorer.
- websites visited in the current session.
- displayed web page and search engine.
- displayed web page, website and browser.

8. Clicking on the item labelled 2 should make the browser
- download Karen Brown’s new book.
- open a search engine to find authors.
- travel away from the library’s website.
- open the library website search engine.

9. Usually, navigating means finding a travel route, especially for crossing the sea by ship. Why is looking for web pages called navigating the web?
- Like the sea, the web is vast and trackless.
- Like travel, web searching requires patience.
- Like navigators, computer users peer at texts.
- Like a ship, a computer is controlled with tools.