

# The Cyber World: Its Charms and Challenges

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## ABSTRACT

The cyber world has become important in human race with the development in science and technology area. Cyber world is definitely the first step towards the same path. The paper focuses on the global network of interconnected computers and digital networks that has entirely changed. The paper explores the worldwide system, consistent computer networks and inter-connected electronic devices that correspond with each other using a recognized set of procedures. The major challenges comprise cyber security, digital transaction, digital money, privacy concerns, and net neutrality. It is enhancing cyber pliability; protecting cyber attacks, and securing systems and networks to alleviate risks.

**Key words: networks, system, cyber, security, internet, transaction and communication**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Paper focuses on advantages and disadvantages of internet. It is a revolutionary communication technology. The charms of the cyber world include almost anything you can think of. It has made long distance education and communication instant and in real time possible. It has made online business possible and enabled us to do many tasks from the comfort of your home that might not have been possible earlier. However, the cyber world has also helped emerge cyber criminals and commitment of cyber crime. Social media like face book while connecting billions of people online has also led to crimes like cyber stalking, and access of personal information for commitment of crime. In addition, cyber media can be addictive.

The word cyber means when you are online or using the internet. Cyber World is when you're working with the computer and doing work over the World Wide Web. The world of computers and communications implies today's fast-moving, high-technology world. The internet can be both helpful and hindering to people of all ages. For children, the internet provides a vast library of knowledge. Students literally have the world at their fingertips. Any topic can be researched at any time, day or night. "The word became popular in the 1990s when the use of the Internet, networking, and digital communication were all growing dramatically; the term cyberspace was able to represent the many new ideas and phenomena that were emerging" (Strate, Lance, 382 )

The internet also makes learning the textbook content more interesting by offering games and short videos that students may watch and interact with. For adults, it is still a wonderful resource for information about diseases, world news, parenting tips, and many other things. Again, adults, like children, can research any topic at any time. There are also games on the internet, as well as forums and groups that cater to the interests of individuals. Many adults choose to shop online instead of going, to the mall or department stores.

The internet, however, can be harmful to children and adults in quite a few ways. Online predators are always out preying on children who will willingly give away their personal information. Children may also "stumble" across sites that are inappropriate for them. Some problems for adults that are caused by the internet are pornography, lack of real life relationships, laziness, and gaming.

The Internet is nonetheless a marvellous invention despite its benefits and harms. Because of its introduction into education and its availability to just about anyone, the world will probably never be the same. People of all ages can log on 24/7 in search of whatever they need. The elderly woman who is unable to drive can log onto the Internet and shop for groceries, fill a prescription or even chat with her grandchildren via web cam. Collectors no longer have to scour flea markets and

yard sales on weekends to find coveted items to add to their collections all they have to do is log on to Ebay and post a bid. Anything can be purchased on line now. Clothing, Jewelry, Furniture...even take-out.

Internet is extremely useful in planning lessons. The web has a plethora of sites created specifically for teachers to share ideas, change information, and share documents (thanks enotes!). Perhaps young people stand to gain the most from using the Internet. In addition to being able to express themselves and show creativity on sites like MySpace and Twitter, they can also use the net for school projects and homework.

Still, for every pro, there is a con. In other words, despite the charms and advantages of the cyber world there are lot of challenges and disadvantages. Therefore, the users need to be careful in using the internet. They must be disciplined and mature to understand the implications of the challenges encountered, so that they can handle the cyber threat. In fact the best strategy is to be careful enough to avoid the harms. Internet criminals can operate from beyond the borders and the law of your nation has no jurisdictional authority to nab the criminal.

Students sometimes rely too much on the internet. They don't seem to understand that just because something is on Google, that doesn't make it a reliable source. There is a lot of wrong information on the internet. Anyone can post anything, and much of it is garbage. There are predators that hang out on the internet waiting to get unsuspecting people in dangerous situations. Some people are getting addicted to the internet and thus causing problems with their interactions of friends and loved ones. Pornography can get in the hands of young children too easily. It is easy to waste a lot of time on the internet. You can start surfing, and then realize far more time has passed than you realized. Internet and television together have added to the more sedentary lifestyles of people which further exacerbate the obesity problem. Internet has a lot of "cheater" sites. There are a lot of unscrupulous businesses that have sprung up on the internet to take advantage of people. Hackers can create viruses that can get into your personal computer and ruin valuable data. Hackers can use the internet for identity theft. It can be quite depressing to be on the internet and realize just how uneducated so many people have become in today's society.

Cyber world is safe when personal details such as name, phone number and house address are not given. People who are involved in cyber crime always look for innocent children from whom they can take their personal information and can hack their id's. It is safe when you are not using bad languages on internet and do not take part in arguments or fights online. When teens or children start to use bad languages on social network or involve themselves in arguments they can find themselves in problems such as complaints against them. It is safe when you-do not accept any of the money offers online. There are many money offers or free offers which require surveys which have been made to take the personal information of innocent people. "cyberspace should not be confused with the Internet, the term is often used to refer to objects and identities that exist largely within the communication network itself, so that a website, for example, might be metaphorically said to exist in cyberspace"( Graham, Mark 182 )

However, despite the threats and disadvantages associated with internet, cyber world offers far more advantages that cannot be underestimated. The entire scope of homeschooling has expanded because of increased accessibility to videos of teachers giving lectures, showing diagrams and explaining concepts, much like a real classroom. Non-profit organizations too have opened websites that seek volunteers and donations in order to help the ones in need. There are also sites like Wikipedia, Coursera, Babbel, Archive, and Teachertube, among others, that have dedicated themselves to impart knowledge to people of all age groups.

Entertainment is one of the foremost reasons why people prefer surfing the Web. In fact, the Internet has gained much success by marketing for several multifaceted entertainment industries. Finding the latest updates about celebrities and exploring lifestyle websites have become day-to-day activities of many Internet consumers. On the other hand, even celebrities are using the Internet effectively for promoting their cause and for keeping their fans happy. There are innumerable games that can be „downloaded, either for a price or for free. Indeed, online gaming has tasted dramatic and phenomenal success because of its ever-increasing demand throughout the world. "The technological convergence of the mass media is the result of a long adaptation process of their communicative resources to the evolutionary changes of each historical moment. Thus, the new media became an extension of the traditional media in cyberspace, allowing to the public access information in a wide range of digital devices" (Teixeira, Marcelo 114)

One cannot imagine a social life without Facebook or Twitter. These portals have become our means to stay connected with friends and family, and stay in touch with the latest happenings in the world. Social networking has also evolved as a great medium to connect with like-minded individuals and become a part of interesting groups and communities. "Cyberspace draws attention to remediation of culture through new media technologies: it is not just a communication tool but a social destination and is culturally significant in its own right. Finally, cyberspace can be seen as providing new opportunities to

reshape society and culture through „hidden“ identities, or it can be seen as borderless communication and culture” (Terry, F. 96)

Apart from finding long-lost friends, the Internet also makes it easier to search and apply for jobs and business opportunities on forums and communities. There are public chat rooms where users can meet new people. For those who are single, the Internet also provides the option to select a suitable dating partner through secure online profiles, which can be filtered as per personal preferences.

Internet has been a boon to the governments making e-governance possible with the addition of speed, cost-reduction, transparency and accountability in the access of government and administrative services. Use of ICT makes governing process transparent. All the information of the Government would be made available on the internet. The citizens can see the information whenever they want to see. But this is only possible when every piece of information of the Government is uploaded on the internet and is available for the public to peruse.

Current governing process leaves many ways to conceal the information from all the people. ICT helps make the information available online eliminating all the possibilities of concealing of information. Once the governing process is made transparent the Government is automatically made accountable. Accountability is answerability of the Government to the people. It is the answerability for the deeds of the Government. It is to numerous monetary services, we can perform all our financial transactions online. It can book tickets for a movie, transfer funds, pay utility bills and taxes without having to leave our homes or offices. Travel websites for instance, offer quick booking schemes and plan itineraries as per the preferences of their clients.

E-commerce is used for all type of business dealing that involves the transfer of money through the Internet. Online transaction of money has become the norm with almost all kinds of business. E-commerce, with its vast reach over a variety of products and services, makes it possible to have the client’s orders delivered at their doorsteps. Websites such as eBay allow customers to bid, buy, sell, and even auction products online.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is an innumerable charms and advantages of the cyber world from education to financial services, research, data collection, online jobs and many more. Nevertheless, there are serious challenges encountered with the unbridled use of internet including thefts and identity thefts, frauds, and various other crimes made possible by anonymity and invisibility of the cyber world. That does not however mean that the use of cyber platform must be abandoned.

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