



TIM BERNERS-LEE Reading Comprehension

Tim Berners-Lee was born in London on June 8, 1955. His parents were mathematicians who worked on the Mark I computer. They encouraged Tim's interest in math and electronics. He majored in physics at Queen's College, Oxford. While he was there, he built his own computer out of spare parts. He was also caught hacking and banned from using the university's computer.

In 1980, he went to Geneva, Switzerland, to work as a software engineer for CERN (Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire). In English, this is the European Organization for Nuclear Research. Scientists at CERN use the Large Hadron Collider (LHC)—the world's largest particle accelerator—to study atoms and other areas of particle physics. He developed Enquire, the first model of the World Wide Web, to keep track of all the scientists and projects connected with CERN. Enquire was the first program to use "hypertext" to link documents.

In 1969, the Pentagon Arpanet Project began to develop a way to share information between computers. In 1975, the idea was first tested. At this time, it was only used by colleges and the military. The word "internet" is short for internetworking. It was first used in writing in 1974.

In 1984, Berners-Lee was inspired to combine his hypertext idea with the sharing idea developed by Arpanet. His vision was a worldwide information space where computers would be linked together so researchers could instantly share information. Berners-Lee developed other important ideas for the internet. Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is the language that computers use to communicate on the internet. Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) are the addresses people use to find information. Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) is a language used to design web pages. By 1990, Berners-Lee created the first browser so users could find and read documents. He called his browser the WorldWideWeb.

Because Berners-Lee wanted the web to be universally accessible and free, he set up the World Wide Web Consortium in 1994. The Consortium sets standards so web designers can build pages that work for all users, on all operating systems and browsers.

Today Berners-Lee is a senior research scientist at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). Time magazine calls him one of the 100 greatest minds of this century. In 1999 he wrote his memoir, *Weaving The Web*.

1.) Which happened first?

- a.) Tim Berners-Lee founded the World Wide Web Consortium.
- b.) He wrote his memoir.
- c.) Tim Berners-Lee created the first internet browser.
- d.) The word "internet" came into being.

2.) What does the word "accessible" mean in the following sentence:

Because Berners-Lee wanted the web to be universally accessible and free, he set up the World Wide Web Consortium in 1994.

- a.) inexpensive
- b.) something people can easily use
- c.) interesting
- d.) unique

3.) Which question is answered in the third paragraph?

- a.) Who used the first working idea of the internet in 1975?
- b.) What universities used the first idea of the internet?
- c.) When did the internet become available to the public?
- d.) What was the first website?

4.) Which of the following might be an example of a hyperlink?

- a.) **MrNussbaum.com**
- b.) [MrNussbaum.com](#)
- c.) **MRNUSSBAUM.COM**
- d.) ***MrNussbaum.com***

5.) Which of the following is NOT true about Tim Berners-Lee?

- a.) His vision for the internet was one in which businesses could sell their products on people's computers.
- b.) He has been in Time magazine.
- c.) He developed many important concepts for the internet.
- d.) He is a professor at MIT.

6.) Why did Tim Berners-Lee get in trouble in college?

- a.) He failed physics.
- b.) He was not allowed to build his own computer.
- c.) He hacked into the university's computer.
- d.) He stole parts to build a computer.

7.) Why did Tim Berners-Lee develop Enquire?

- a.) To communicate with people all over the world
- b.) To study atoms
- c.) To keep track of projects happening at CERN
- d.) To build websites

8.) Why did Tim Berners-Lee found the World Wide Web Consortium?

- a.) So people could always use the internet for free
- b.) To develop new technologies
- c.) So only certain universities and military units could use the internet
- d.) To prevent criminals from using the Internet

9.) In 1975...

- a.) the beginning of what would become the Internet was used by colleges and the military.
- b.) the world's first particle accelerator was assembled.
- c.) Tim Berners-Lee was hired as a software engineer in Switzerland.
- d.) the Pentagon Arpanet Project began to develop a way to share information between computers.

10.) Which of the following is a language used to create web pages?

- a.) HTTP
- b.) HTML
- c.) MIT
- d.) URLs