Grade 13 A/L ICT · Lesson 10

10.1 The World Wide Web and Types of Websites

Syllabus 10.1. The **World Wide Web (WWW)** is a huge collection of linked **web pages** stored on **web servers** and reached through the Internet with a **web browser**. Pages are joined by **hyperlinks** and found by their **URL**. Websites are grouped by purpose: **information/news**, **personal**, **educational**, **commercial**, **research** and **web portals**.

1. How the web works

The World Wide Web: client and server



URL example: https://www.nie.lk/index.html → protocol · domain name · file

Browser, Internet and web server

- The **Internet** is the network of networks; the **WWW** is one service that runs on it, like e-mail.
- A **browser** (Chrome, Firefox, Edge) sends an **HTTP** request; the **web server** sends back HTML.
- A **URL** such as https://www.nie.lk/index.html has a protocol, a domain name and a file path.
- A **website** is a set of related web pages under one domain, starting from a **home page**.

2. Types of websites

Type	Purpose	Sri Lankan example
Information / news	Up-to-date news and facts	a daily newspaper site
Personal	About one person, blog or portfolio	a teacher's blog
Educational	Lessons, syllabuses and e-learning	nie.lk, e-thaksalawa
Commercial	Selling goods and services online	an online shop
Research	Publishing research papers and data	a university research site
Web portal	One gateway to many services and links	gov.lk government portal

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🧱 **Worked example: Classify: (a) a site where you pay electricity bills and reach many government services, (b) a site selling phones.**
(a) **Web portal** – one entry point to many services. (b) **Commercial** – its main purpose is selling.

3. A home page

HTML: Home page with a navigation menu

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Green Valley School</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Green Valley School</h1>
  <p>
    <a href="index.html">Home</a> |
    <a href="about.html">About</a> |
    <a href="news.html">News</a> |
    <a href="contact.html">Contact</a>
  </p>
  <h2>Latest news</h2>
  <p>Sports meet on 12 March.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

▶ **Result in the browser**

Green Valley School

Home | About | News | Contact

Latest news

Sports meet on 12 March.

💡 Think of the web as a library: pages are books, URLs are shelf numbers and hyperlinks are "see also" notes.

🚀 **Beyond the syllabus (2026 update)** *Not required for the exam – read for interest.* In 2026 many sites are web apps (PWAs) that work offline and install like phone apps, but they are still built from HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

Key Words

World Wide Web – System of linked pages reached over the Internet.

Web page – Single document written in HTML.

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Website – Group of related web pages under one domain.

Web browser – Program that requests and displays web pages.

Web server – Computer that stores and sends web pages.

URL – Address of a resource on the web.

HTTP – Protocol used to request and send web pages.

Hyperlink – Clickable link to another page or place.

Home page – First page of a website.

Web portal – Website that is a gateway to many services.

Commercial website – Website that sells goods or services.

Domain name – Human-readable name of a web server such as nie.lk.

Sample Q&A

1. Internet vs WWW?

> **Answer:** The Internet is the network; the WWW is a service of linked pages on it.

2. Role of a web browser?

> **Answer:** Requests pages with HTTP and displays the HTML.

3. Parts of https://www.nie.lk/index.html?

> **Answer:** Protocol https, domain www.nie.lk, file index.html.

4. What is a web portal?

> **Answer:** A site that gives one gateway to many services.

5. Example of an educational site?

> **Answer:** nie.lk or e-thaksalawa.

6. What is a home page?

> **Answer:** The first page of a website that links to the others.

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MCQ

1. The WWW is best described as

A. a web browser
B. a programming language
C. a service of linked pages on the Internet
D. the Internet itself
E. an e-mail system

2. Which program displays web pages?

A. DBMS
B. web server
C. FTP server
D. compiler
E. web browser

3. The protocol used to request web pages is

A. HTTP
B. POP3
C. SMTP
D. FTP only
E. SQL

4. In https://www.nie.lk/index.html the domain name is

A. https
B. index.html
C. /index
D. www.nie.lk
E. lk/index.html

5. A site that is a gateway to many government services is a

A. research site
B. personal site
C. web portal
D. blog
E. search index

6. An online shop is a

A. research website
B. commercial website
C. news website
D. web portal only
E. personal website

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7. The first page of a website is the

A. home page
B. server page
C. style sheet
D. error page
E. last page

8. A teacher’s blog about herself is a

A. web portal
B. research database
C. personal website
D. news agency site
E. commercial website

9. Which term means: “System of linked pages reached over the Internet”?

A. Hyperlink
B. URL
C. Website
D. Commercial website
E. World Wide Web

10. Which term means: “Single document written in HTML”?

A. HTTP
B. Web page
C. Home page
D. Web browser
E. Domain name

11. Which term means: “Group of related web pages under one domain”?

A. Web server
B. Hyperlink
C. World Wide Web
D. Web portal
E. Website

12. Which term means: “Program that requests and displays web pages”?

A. Home page
B. Commercial website
C. Web page
D. Web browser
E. URL

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13. Which term means: “Computer that stores and sends web pages”?

A. HTTP
B. Web portal
C. Website
D. Web server
E. Domain name

14. Which term means: “Address of a resource on the web”?

A. URL
B. World Wide Web
C. Hyperlink
D. Web browser
E. Commercial website

15. Which term means: “Protocol used to request and send web pages”?

A. HTTP
B. Web page
C. Domain name
D. Home page
E. Web server

16. Which term means: “Clickable link to another page or place”?

A. World Wide Web
B. Website
C. URL
D. Web portal
E. Hyperlink

17. Which term means: “First page of a website”?

A. Web browser
B. Home page
C. HTTP
D. Web page
E. Commercial website

18. Which term means: “Website that is a gateway to many services”?

A. Website
B. Web server
C. Web portal
D. Domain name
E. Hyperlink

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19. Which term means: “Website that sells goods or services”?

A. World Wide Web
B. Commercial website
C. Home page
D. URL
E. Web browser

20. Which term means: “Human-readable name of a web server such as nie.lk”?

A. Web portal
B. Web page
C. Web server
D. Domain name
E. HTTP

Structured Questions

1. Distinguish the Internet and the World Wide Web. *(3 marks)*

> Network of networks; service of linked pages; example.

2. Explain how a browser gets a page from a web server. *(4 marks)*

> URL typed; HTTP request; server sends HTML; browser displays.

3. Name the parts of a URL with an example. *(2 marks)*

> Protocol, domain name, path/file.

4. Describe four types of websites with examples. *(2 marks)*

> Any four of news, personal, educational, commercial, research, portal.

5. Explain why a school needs a website. *(4 marks)*

> Share news, notices, results; contact; image; e-learning.

Summary

- The WWW is linked pages on the Internet.
- Browsers request; servers respond with HTML.
- A URL locates a page.
- Sites are news, personal, educational, commercial, research or portals.
- A website starts at its home page.

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MCQ answer key – 10.1

1. **C** – Service.
2. **E** – Browser.
3. **A** – HTTP.
4. **D** – Domain.
5. **C** – Portal.
6. **B** – Selling.
7. **A** – Home page.
8. **C** – Personal.
9. **E** – World Wide Web – System of linked pages reached over the Internet.
10. **B** – Web page – Single document written in HTML.
11. **E** – Website – Group of related web pages under one domain.
12. **D** – Web browser – Program that requests and displays web pages.
13. **D** – Web server – Computer that stores and sends web pages.
14. **A** – URL – Address of a resource on the web.
15. **A** – HTTP – Protocol used to request and send web pages.
16. **E** – Hyperlink – Clickable link to another page or place.
17. **B** – Home page – First page of a website.
18. **C** – Web portal – Website that is a gateway to many services.
19. **B** – Commercial website – Website that sells goods or services.
20. **D** – Domain name – Human-readable name of a web server such as nie.lk.

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