
PROVA DE INGLÊS

Read the following passage and choose the option which best completes each question, according to the text:

Are you a blogger too?

A few years ago, a “web log” was a little-known way of keeping an online diary. This didn’t last long, though, and within a very short period of time, blogs exploded. They were everywhere, and it seemed that almost everyone read blogs, or was a blogger.

The blogging craze of a couple of years ago now seems to have died down a bit – yet thousands of blogs (probably the better ones) remain. They are now seen as important and influential sources of news and opinion. So many people read blogs now, that it has been suggested that some blogs may have been powerful enough to influence the result of the recent US election.

Not all blogs are about politics, however. There are blogs about music, film, sport, books – any subject you can imagine has its enthusiasts typing away and giving their opinions to anyone else who cares to read their opinions. So many people read blogs now that the world of blog writers and blog readers has its own name – the “blogosphere”.

But how influential, or important, is this blogosphere really? One problem with blogs is that many people who read and write them seem only to communicate with each other. Sometimes, it seems that the blogosphere exists only to influence itself, or that its influence is limited to what is actually quite a small community. Blogs seem to promise a virtual democracy – in which anyone can say anything they like, and have their opinions heard – but who is actually listening to these opinions? There is still little hard evidence that blogs have influenced people in the way that traditional mass media have the ability to do.

(Adapted from: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/business-magazine/blogging-or-print>)

QUESTION 36

A few years ago blogs

- a) did not exist.
- b) were not popular
- c) had more power.
- d) were not used.

QUESTION 37

The word **yet** in "...yet thousands of blogs remain." (paragraph 2) conveys an idea of

- a) cause.
- b) conclusion.
- c) condition.
- d) contrast.

QUESTION 38

The word **ones** in "probably the better ones" (paragraph 2) refers to

- a) blogs.
- b) years.
- c) sources.
- d) news.

QUESTION 39

Some people have criticized the blogosphere because they think that

- a) anyone can say anything they like there.
- b) it is restricted to a small community.
- c) people may have their opinions heard.
- d) it can be too significant on people's lives.

QUESTION 40

According to the text, traditional mass media is probably

- a) being rather manipulated.
- b) limited to a small population.
- c) more influential than blogs.
- d) like a virtual democracy.

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