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Concept - Editorial Team Editor-in-Chief - Hatice Güngör Page Design - Editorial Team As for this issue, like in every issue we have different contents about various topics but the main theme is Christmas. Our writer came up with original content including the ones about Christmas.

Andrea has written about the NECC tournament, something I've never heard of before this article. Well, I'm sure you have as I know that many of you are fans of video games. As this is the time of the year which we should be tolerant and helpful, Honza and Vašek decided to write about homeless people and what we can do for them. This year you might want to save a part of your budget for the homeless people and I think their article can provide you with the insight to do so. We know about the Czech christmas or the one in the USA because of the movies but what about other countries? How do they celebrate Christmas? Mariia tells us about Christmas in Ukraine, the food, the tradition and the whole pack. The second country we are going to take a look at is Poland. What is happening at the neighbour's place? What does a traditional Christmas table look like in Poland? Vincent and Oliver wrote about the things you might find interesting about Polish Christmas. As you might imagine our technology expert is Martin and for this issue he's written about the violence which is thought to be caused by the video games. He's discussing the pro's and con's of video games and provides you with a different perspective about the topic. There is no end to different topics in our magazine. Andrej is a fan of fire sport which is very popular in the Czech Republic and he explains this sport in detail in his article. Matilda in this issue is writing about the cats and reveals some uncommon facts about them. Kačka is telling us about her hobby: drawing from a different perspective, maybe from a view you have never thought of before. Anna is a gymnast for a long time and as a sportswoman , giving as valuable information about the sport. Kuba has chosen to write about the USA for this issue. A dream country for most of the people which we know a lot about, Hollywood, Coca Cola and McDonald's are only a few to mention. Matilda is into sports as you might know and she explains the reasons why we should do sports, I believe you'll be persuaded. Our book reviewer Lukáš has finished reading one more book, too, just to save you from the indecisiveness of what to read during the Christmas holiday. Take a look and see for yourself if you'll enjoy such a book. How do you feel about Christmas? I think Nela just tells us about all the Christmas spirit and rush and how it gives joy to us. Of course during the holiday you'll spend some time with the family and it is possible to find the chance to enjoy a film together, so here we have two suggestions for you: one is a family movie which you can enjoy with younger siblings. Elisha recommends an all-time classic Christmas movie: Home Alone. Vojtech on the other hand comes up with an interesting movie for teenagers who enjoy dramas: Uppenheimer. As for watching something it is not a secret that nowadays everybody likes Netflix and can find something to their taste on that platform, but how did it start at all? Tereza and Iveta have written about the most phenomenal platform of all times and answers the questions on your mind. Would you like to try something new for the time you're going to spend at home? Are you into technology? Then Yaman's recommendation of a small computer which can fit into your pocket will interest you. Why don't you make a wish for Christmas? It wasn't possible for us not to mention this year's amazing Christmas market in our school. Lukáš has written his observations at the Christmas market and the buffet. Look at the beautiful photos taken by Nela while reading the article. Is it possible to live without music? Absolutely not! Ieta and Nikola wrote about their favourite type of music. If you've never tried to listen o a song of one of these types, why don't you give it a go? On our last page you'll read about the habit of reading from our former student Barbora. So that's all from us readers, enjoy it all and see you next year.

Hatice Güngör

# FEN V5 BLINN - FIRST GAME OF THE NEEL TOURNAMENT

In one of the latest tournaments in the game of Valorant, NECC legends, which took place between 14th November and 6th December, there were 8 teams that participated in the upper Quarterfinals, Converse NBG against Ball State, here are the teams: Navy Blinn Esports, Mizzou **Esports** College against against Harrisburg University and **UCF** Gold against West Virginia University.





The winner of the tournament is Fisher College which I will talk about. The first map they played on was Haven, they started "on attack" First there was a pistol round. They win the pistol round, get a huge economic advantage and win the second round, as well. The third round BLINN gets a win but it doesn't last long as FCN gets the fourth and fifth round, pushing the score up to a 4-1. However, BLINN strikes back with a six-round win streak. The score is 4-7 and it's the last round in the first half. FCN surprisingly won the last round and got the score to 5-7. It's not looking well for FCN but they strike and get a four-win streak. The score, 9-7, FCN is winning. BLINN gets one round but FCN gets another two. The game is 11-8 and FCN almost has the win. BLINN pushes and doesn't let FCN win so easily and get two rounds. It's 11-10 and FCN gets another round. It's Match Point for FCN but BLINN gets two rounds and pushes the game into overtime. FCN wins the first round, feeling confident, their confidence is shattered when BLINN gets the second round and another overtime occurs. FCN wins by killing all of BLINN's members and they need one more win to win the whole game. FCN is on defence and BLINN on attack. It's a close game but FCN gets the round by defusing the spike. FCN wins the first game of 2 to move further in the tournament.

# HELP HOMELESS PEOPLE

Jan Vlášek, Václav Petříček

#### HOW DO PEOPLE BECOME HOMELESS?

Homeless people are poor and you don't know what they have been through. They need a new start and get back on track. Of course, you can say now that it is their fault and you are true. Lots of times it is their fault that they get addicted to drugs and they give up their lives to substance because they want to, or do a big crime and they get out of prison and they have nothing now.





Types of Homeless people

There are two types of homeless people - first one are homeless people who just get unlucky, their house gets on fire or a tornado destroys their houses. You should give this type of person money and help them to start their lives again.

However there is no light without dark. There is a second type. These are people, who take drugs or do some bad habits and they become homeless because of their own fault, which doesn't mean they don't deserve a second chance, but giving money to these people is risky, because they will probably buy alcohol or drugs. So the best thing you can do for them is buy food.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE?

Homeless people are sad. You have to help them. There are only a few people who can really help them because people don't want to give money to random people. You can donate them money. If you don't have enough money please don't lend them money. They will be really happy if you do something for them.

### Ways you can help homeless people

### **Homeless shelters**

Homeless shelter is a place where people without a home can stay for the night.

Volunteering

Many homeless shelters will welcome your help.

Donating

You can donate or raise money to charities online.





MARIIA KEIZOR





Christmas is the jolliest time of the year and it is celebrated with great joy and happines in the Czech Republic. As the Christmas is getting closer we wanted to take look at Christmas celebrations in other countries. In this issue we're going to take a Christmas look at in two countries: Ukraine and Poland. So, let's find out more about the Christmas celebrations in these two countries. Happey reading you all!

Ukrainians are mostly orthodox and they have Christmas on 7th January, but from September 2023 people have started to use the Gregorian calendar. This means that Ukrainians will celebrate Christmas on 25th December, too.

Christmas Eve (the day before Christmas) is called "Sviaty Vechir" or "Sviatvechir" (Holy Evening).

On this day, in the evening the whole family gathers together and eats 12 special dishes. The first one is always kutia, then you can eat whatever you want. For example: borshch (ukrainian soup made from beet), mushroom gravy, varenyky (dumplings with potato, cabbage or cherry), holubtsi (cabbage rolls with rice and meat).

People can start eating only after the first star appears in the sky, because it is a memory for Jesus Christ's birth. When Jesus was born a star appeared in the sky by which people understood that the Messiah was born.





Vincent ŠOLC, Oliver Zikmund





# CHRISTMAS IN POLAND

Christmas is celebrated on December 24th. In Poland, Christmas is called the birth of God. In most places, Saint Nicholas brings presents in the southern part of Poland Jesus. Baking Christmas gingerbread and making Christmas decorations are typical during Advent time. The nicest Christmas markets in Poland are visited can be visited in Krakow, Katowice and Wrocław

Christmas Eve dinner courses include poppy seed cakes, stuffed turkey, borsch and many others. People often make decorations themselves at home. It is said that on Christmas Day, baby Jesus leaves heaven and descends on a donkey to the ground. No hard alcohol is drunk at dinner. In some religious families, the family prays, reads from the Bible or sings carols before dinner. Christmas unofficially starts on December 6th, but people only give some small gifts for children. The actual Christmas Day is on December 24th.







# Do video games cause violence?

This has been a commonly asked question for so long and everyone thinks that the answer is yes. However I think the answer is the opposite. I am here to prove that video games can actually help you. When the new game called Doom was released, everyone agreed on the fact that it was brutal. There was some brutality but the real problem occurred when the first ever school shooting happened in America. Because the shooters were I5 and I4 years old and after that evidence was found that one of the shooters had a diary and there he said and I quote: "killing should be easy like in the games Doom or Quake."

A lot of psychiatrists said that games can change a child's brain and that teenagers practise shooting and these battles sometimes seem infinite. It looked bad for brutal video games but the battles ended somewhere between 2019 and 2020.

I personally think that there can be some pluses, too. First of all, it helps people to escape from reality and relax a little. Playing games can also improve your reflexes, reaction time and strategic skills. In order to determine the effect of the games on teenagers. Teenagers were given a a map of a video game and the same map was given to the adults. It turned out that teenagers made better strategies than the adults.

Regarding the question if video games cause violence, although I get that parents are afraid of what the games do to their child I think the answer is no as long as your child doesn't play a brutal game. My dad sometimes checks on me if I watch something violent but I tell him that he doesn't need to fear and because I know that it's not real and second of all, I know my way around games and the internet so when something doesn't feel right I click it off.

I should admit that this is a question which is hard to answer.



Andrej KOPČAN

This sport is really famous among Czech volunteer firefighters, but the professional firefighters have this sport as a part of their job. It's for everyone because there are a lot of categories. Young kids from 3 to 6 years are in a category named "preparatory", kids from 6 to 11 are "junior", from 11 to 15 are "senior", and until you are 18 years old, you are "youngster", then there are two categories for men and women. Fire sport is known for having lots of disciplines, but the most famous and favourite is "fire attack". In this discipline, the team has to draw water from the tub through the engine to the hoses, with a nozzle at the end and spray the water on a target in the fastest time they can. This is a typical activity for the neighbours of Czech villages, but a very popular discipline worldwide is TFA - Toughest firefighter alive. Competitor is wearing an emergency suit with full gear. It's like a simulation of things firefighters have to do on real calls. Transporting body (figure), running up the stairs etc. Fire sport can't be described in just one article, you need a whole book for it. But if you are interested in this sport, the closest place you can do it is.....here, Kosmonosy.









Cats are one of the most known animals in the world. But there are a lot of things that you don't know about them. Let me show you.

The basic information which everybody should know is:

cats live between 12 - 18 years
they weigh between 4 - 5 kg (adults)
scientific name: felis catus
they can run up to 48 km/h
their height changes between 23 - 25 cm
they sleep 12 - 18 hours a day

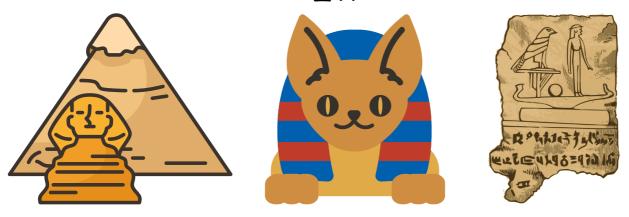


Cats are domesticated animals, but wild cats still exist. Now we have about 40 different kinds of cats.



All cats have very flexible bodies, sharp teeth and claws, excellent sight and hearing and a long tail. One interesting fact about their ears is that they actually have 4 ears, 2 normally big and 2 small on the side of the bigger ears. In history people used cats as a protection against mice but over time they became our best friends just like dogs. Sadly cats might represent different things in different countries. For example, in China they use cats also as a food or for hair. Cats are on every continent of the world, except for Antarctica. In Europe, we have active breeding of cats for 150 years. The first breeding cats came from Turkey and Cyprus before like 8000 years ago. Cats had a big role in ancient Egypt too.

# Cats and Ancient Egypt



Ancient Egyptians believed that cats are gods and they can protect people from evil and darkness so they worshipped them. Even now you can see sphinx in Egypt, which is a cat.

# My cat 🦮

My cat's name is Tedik. He is male and now 3 years old. He is an outdoor cat. He loves treats. As a family, we know that when Tedik is hungry, he meows and when he wants to get treats he stands up on his two legs or he paws. He was born on 15th April. He doesn't like expensive toys, he likes his small bouncy ball. He is very cute. He has the letter M on his forehead. When you play with him too much, he starts being angry. My cat likes it when I am stretching his neck.



# HOBBIES

Kačka Kouřimská.

Drawing

Drawing is a visual art, you can draw on paper, rocks, clothes, vellum, wood, canvas, plastics and leather. The tools can be crayons, brushes, pens, pencils, or you can combine them. When you draw with drawing tools they leave behind small areas of paint/material which means your lines are then visible. A very quick and unplanned freehand drawing is called a sketch. Sketches can be drawn anywhere, but the best is on normal paper, but if you don't have it, you can do it on your mobile phone, as well.

Drawing has been a popular and fundamental of public expression throughout human history. It is one of the easiest ways to communicate your thoughts to someone else. Since drawing tools are easy to find, it makes this hobby one of the most popular.





Lymnastics

Anna Marketa SOPKOVÁ

Gymnastics is a sport in which individual competitors perform their power or swings gymnastic elements on the carpet. There are three capital styles of gymnastics: gymnastics for men, gymnastics for women and modern gymnastics.

Gymnastics for men has six branches: flat, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and bars. Gymnastics for women has five: vault, parallel, bars, beam and floor. Modern gymnastics is often a women's sport, free sets with equipment and musical accompaniment, 5 equipment: hoop, cones, ball, jump rope, ribbon, set length 70-90 seconds.

Participants in gymnastics-related sports are young children, recreational-level athletes, and competitive athletes at all skill levels. Highest reforming body in gymnastics is Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG).





Tumbling is one of the hardest disciplines in gymnastics; they are often referred to as power tumbling, a discipline in which participants perform a series of acrobatic skills down a 25 metres long sprung track. There is a world competition every 4 years.

I've been doing gymnastics for 9 years. My mom got me into it because she is my trainer. My mom has been a trainer for 15 years. Our most popular gymnast is Věra Čáslavská. She was a seven-time Olympic champion. She had a very special life. She started gymnastics at 15 years old and at the same year she won the national championship. In January she became adviser to the president of the ČSR. In 1967, at the European championships in Amsterdam she won gold in all events. In her lifetime, she won the gold medal 21 times.





# THE USA

The USA is a country with red, blue and white colors in their flag. It has changed their flag 26 times. It's a country with 332 million people.

This country is so big that it has to split to the north and south and even middle. The biggest river in the world, the Amazon flows through this country. The USA has the longest mountain range in the world called Cordillera. The most popular city in this country is New York and the largest city is Sitka, Alaska - 2870 square miles. The USA is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean.

It has been the home to some of the most eminent historical figures including Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, John F. Kennedy, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and many others. The USA's current president is Joe Biden. The USA has the second strongest military in the world.

The USA is known for its rich history and heritage. The USA is also known for helping the Soviet Union defeat Germany in World War Two.





### Matilda KOLOUŠKOVÁ

# SPORTS

Sports are physical activities for people. There are many types of sports for example:

summer sports groups sports water sports ball sports

...and other sports. Sports are very good and healthy for people, specifically for our generation. We need to move. And we are very, very lucky because we can choose any sport we like. There are a lot of sports. I, personally, like basketball. Basketball is a group sport with a ball. It's usually for five players in one team. There are two teams against each other. All you have to do is to shoot the ball in the basket. I'm not a professional player. I just like this sport because it's fun when we play it in P.E.

Hockey is the most popular sport in the Czech Republic. Hockey is a sport which is played with a hockey stick and a black thing called a puck. Your task is to get the puck to the goal using your hockey stick. The Czech Republic is a fan of hockey, we have Jaromír Jágr and in my city where I live (Mlada Boleslav) floorball is the most popular. What sport is the most popular in your country? And have you ever played a sport? If you don't, I think you should start as soon as possible.







Neverwhere is a fantasy book written by Neil Gaiman that revolves around the main character named Richard Mayhew. Richard Mayhew is a young businessman who lives in the centre of London. He just recently moved from Scotland to London. One night after meeting with a client he met a girl weakened and injured on the street. The girl was named Door and after rescuing her Richard realized that he messed with some bigshots in London. Later in the story Richard, thanks to the girl, discovers a mysterious side of London where paranormal things and happenings are normal.

The thing I appreciated the most about this book is the way the story is described. The level of English is higher than other books so it was quite difficult to read and understand, but I think the plot development is quite good but the start was really chaotic.

There were times where I truly got lost in the story, but I think that should be the fault of my level English and not the book.







I think that Christmas has always been one of my favourite holidays. It has a really special atmosphere which you can feel everywhere; in the shops, restaurants, streets and even at homes. It is exciting and magical outside. Christmas has a very specific smell. I imagine it like cinnamon vanilla and gingerbread. Christmas is mainly about sharing everything with family and I believe that is the most important thing. When the Christmas starts, the smile is painted all over people's faces and everything becomes colorful. Christmas has such a power and it is such a wonderful experience for everyone.

Christmas is also important in history and it is tradition from history to this day on.

However, something I don't really like is how crowded shopping centers are and nobody can get through. I love the food and Christmas sweets. Singers sing and play Christmas songs and I immediately get into the Christmas atmosphere every year when I hear these songs.

I also love Christmas movies, there are different kinds of Christmas movies such as comedy, fantasy, animation or musicals. It is fun to watch movies with the family at christmas time.

I hate when Christmas ends and I wonder why some people don't like Christmas time I really don't understand them.



## WHAT TO WATCH AT CHRISTMAS

Oppenheimer

Vojtěch ČERVENKA

When I decided to watch the film Oppenheimer, I expected not only a historical perspective on the development of the atomic bomb but also a deeper exploration of the mind and heart of the individual behind this revolutionary scientific achievement. The film completely captivated me from the very beginning.

J.Robert Oppenheimer was introduced not only as an exceptional physicist but also as a complex individual full of conflicts and emotions. His internal struggle, reflected in the actor's face and the depth of the dialogues, compelled me to a profound reflection on questions of ethics and moral responsibility in science.

The visual aspect of the film was stunning. The authentic reconstruction of the era and precise details of scientific laboratories immersed me in the atmosphere of that time. The film's music underscored the emotional depth of the story and provided a soundtrack for Oppenheimer's internal conflicts.







Home Alone

Eliška Tůmová

It's a 1990 American Christmas comedy film directed by Chris Columbus and written and produced by John Hughes.

Home Alone is widely accepted as one of the best Christmas films. A sequel, Home Alone 2: Lost in New York, was released in 1992. The main character of the movie is a little kid named Kevin McCallister The story is about a boy (Kevin) who tr\({\text{g}}es to protect his home from a pair of robbers after his family accidentally forgets him at home alone on their Christmas holiday.

In my opinion, it's a very good Christmas movie to watch.



Netflix is the biggest online paid platform where you can watch thousands of films, serials, and documentaries from all over the world. It is available in almost every country and costs about 260 czech crowns per month

Netflix was created on 29th August 1997 by Erin Meyerova and Marc Randolph

There is a new film on Netflix: All the light we cannot see

The film "All the light we cannot see" is about a girl who is blind. She lives in France with her father. They run away from the Germans. They try to protect rare diamonds, but the evil gestapo chases them. He tries to take the diamond back. They move to her uncle. She finds her future love there. He is a perfect teenager, who goes to war. They share a secret bond together and her faith in humanity and hope. It is really an amazing film, I recommend it to everyone.

### Erin Mayerova / Reed Hastings

American billionaire businessman and one of the co-founders of Netflix and Pure Software. He was born in California in 1960 and he created Netflix in 1997. He is 63 years old now and he has two children.





## THE AMAZING WORLD OF MICROCOMPUTERS

Yaman Güngör

HAVE YOU EVER USED A COMPUTER AND THOUGHT 'WHAT IF THEY MADE THIS, BUT SMALLER AND ALSO EASILY PROGRAMMABLE'? WELL HYPOTHETICAL READER, I HAVE JUST THE THING YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.... THE MICROCOMPUTER!

WHAT EVEN IS A MICCOCOMPUTER? A MICCOCOMPUTER IS A SMALL, RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE COMPUTER HAVING A CENTRAL PROCESSING UNIT (CPU) MADE OUT OF A MICCOPROCESSOR. HERE'S AN EXAMPLE: THE MICCO-DIT DY DDC



THIS MICTOCOMPUTET IS TEADY
TO USE OUT OF THE BOH AND
OFFERS DIFFERENT CODE
EDITORS DEPENDING ON YOUR
LEUEL OF LANGUAGE. SO EASY
THAT I CAN EUEN GET A
PROGRAM FUNNING ON IT.

HECE'S A COOL PROJECT FOR IT:
I CHOSE THIS ONE DECAUSE IT
USES A LOT OF PRINCIPLES AT
ONCE. FOR EHAMPLE
CONDUCTIVITY AND CURRENT.
AT THE END OF THIS PROJECT
YOU HAVE A DANANA HEYDOARD.

HTTPS://MAHECODE.MICCODIT.OC g/projects/banana-HEYDOACD/MAHE

I WOULD RECOMMEND MICRODIT DECRUSE IT IS VERY EASY TO START CODING AND THERE ARE PERIPHERRALS AVAILABLE ONLINE THAT YOU CAN ADD ON TO MAKEA WHOLE DUNCH OF THINGS.

# Christmas Market at Kosmonosy Elementary

Lukáš RAIS

JIMELÍ ZELENÉ AOKĆ JIMELÍ BARRITY SI SOKG

On the 30th of November, the school Christmas market was held at our school once again, just like any other year. Almost every class makes decorations or prepares food that they can later sell at the Christmas market in their own stall.

People can support their class by buying their delicacies or the original creations made by the students or their families.

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Children can visit heaven where they get tasty snacks and even hell where they meet with Lucifer himself.

The Ninth graders also have their own buffet with a wide variety of food and drinks, ranging from coffee to fries made on the spot.

Over the years this kind of Christmas market became an yearly tradition that I will never forget. Especially since this year I participated in the buffet where I worked as a cashier and even though it was busy at times, I still enjoyed it very much.







We decorate our school corridors every year. too. This year's theme was Christmas celebrations in different countries. All the decorations were great this year.



I am sure that even when I leave this school in the future I will still come to see similar events at our school, afterall the feeling of nostalgia will still be there.



# MUSIC

# Rock and Metal bands

Iveta HALBICHOVÁ

Rock and Metal is a music style. There is a bass guitar, there should also be a piano, the important thing is drums and electric guitar is of great importance, too. There must be at least two electric guitars in this style.

Now, let's take a look at my favourite Czech group Wotazník. Wotazník was created in 2015 when the frontmen of the band were 12 years old. In 2017, they released their first album named IČ14. In 2020, they released their second album with the name Penta. Wotazník is currently working on a new album which should be released at the end of 2023. Wotazník has six members.





BTS

Nikola KONČINSKÁ

BTS is a music group from South Korea. It has seven members: RM, Jin, Suga, J-Hope, Jimin, V and Jungkook. They have a style of hip-hop songs. They uploaded their first album in June 2013, and it was called '2 Cool 4 Skool'. At the beginning they weren't so popular and people didn't notice them. After a while they started to be more popular among people. At their first concert in West Hollywood, 200 people went in for free and they started to like them.

Now, they sell more than 20,3 millions of albums, and they have uploaded 230 songs so far.

# Black Pink

Black Pink is a music group from South Korea. It has four members: Jisoo, Jennie, Rosé and Lisa. They uploaded their first song in September 2009. They sing K-pop music. They have 33 songs and 13 albums. They are the most followed girl group on YouTube, and second most listened group on Spotify.



## Questionnaire to former students

## READING HABITS

Barbora LINHARTOVÁ



# What did they like reading when they were students and what did they have to read for school?

My grandma liked reading, when she was a student, girls' novels and adventure literature (for example: Alexandre Dumas). She had to read for school classic compulsory reading: Neruda and Jirasek. My mum liked reading when she was young. She was reading girls' novels and adventures. She had to read for school classic compulsory reading: Němcová, Foglar.

### Did their parents read?

Yes, they did. My mother's parents read less than my mother.

### Who were their favourite writers?

My grandma's favourite writer was Alois Jirásek. My mother's favorite writer was Charlotte Charlotte Brontë

### Was it easy to have access to books?

My grandma was lucky because they really had a lot of books at home. She borrowed girls' novels among her friends.

Yes, my mother visited libraries very often.

### Were they expensive?

Yes, they were expensive.

### Did they borrow books from the library?

She did not often borrow books from the library, because she had a lot of books at home.

### What did reading add to their life?

It was her hobby and she spent free time reading. Reading added to my mother's vocabulary and experiences

### Do they still like reading?

Yes, she does, but not so often.

# How did their reading habits change after having a mobile phone, having access to the internet etc?

Her reading habits have not changed much. But she can choose from many types of books on the internet. She can look for book reviews. She still prefers books to e - books, but she reads the news on the internet.

