**CE Level 9**

**Internet safety for children**

The increasing popularity of social networking sites and mobile phone texting have presented society with problems in how to protect children online. More and more youngsters are becoming victims of Internet predators and bullies. Parents are finding it more difficult to ensure their kids are safe online. Gone are the days when Mum and Dad could keep an eye on their child’s surfing with parental controls on the family computer. Today’s new mobile and networked world poses new and dangerous threats to online kids. Two recent initiatives aim to teach children about cyber-safety. Internet safety will soon be taught in UAE schools, while in Indiana, USA, parents will attend an Internet Social Networking conference.

The UAE has launched a nationwide programme aimed at educating students on how to use the Internet safely and avoid suspicious websites. Spokesman Jay Bavisi said: “Advances in instant communication media, including the likes of Twitter, Facebook, and other instant messaging services, drive the very fabric of our modern society. Parents, siblings, teachers and children alike will need to understand the dangers the connected world presents.” The Indiana conference will explore topics like cyber-bullying, sexting and online child exploitation. Local attorney Steven DeBrota said: “The number one way to keep a kid safe is for them to be skeptical. If they do not believe automatically what people tell them, they will be safer.”

Breaking News English, 10th November 2010

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** . Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| a. | Problems arise in protecting kids as they use social networking more. | T / F |
| b. | Parents are finding it easier to help their kids stay safe online. | T / F |
| c. | The old method of parents monitoring kids’ surfing isn’t enough today. | T / F |
| d. | Children in Indiana will soon learn about cyber-safety at school. | T / F |
| e. | Children in the UAE will be taught how to recognize suspicious sites. | T / F |
| f. | Jay Bavisi said the Internet would soon be in the fabric of our clothes. | T / F |
| g. | People at the Indiana conference will not hear about sexting. | T / F |
| h. | An attorney said the safest thing is for kids to remain skeptical. | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | increasing | a. | make certain |
| 2 | youngsters | b. | suspicious |
| 3. | ensure | c. | growing |
| 4. | keep an eye on | d. | brothers and sisters |
| 5. | initiatives | e. | questionable |
| 6. | suspicious | f. | watch over |
| 7. | drive | g. | children |
| 8. | siblings | h. | look at |
| 9. | explore | i. | plans |
| 10. | skeptical | j. | move forward |

**3. WORD SEARCH**. Find the equivalent of the following words in the text.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. Un tyran =  b. surveiller =  c. une menace =  d. éviter =  e. motive, stimuler = | f. la structure =  g. les frères et sœurs =  h. indifféremment, de la même manière =  i. en sécurité= |

**4. QUESTIONS.** Answers the following questions about the text. Some in French , some in English.

1. Write a complete introduction about the text.

2. What is the internet situation like? What is its direct consequence?

3. Why is it more difficult for parents to protect their children nowadays?

4. Explain what UAE are.

5. Explain what cyber-bullying and sexting are.

6. Quelles sont les deux initiatives mises en place pour protéger les enfants ? Où ?

7. Qui sont Jai Bavisi et Steven DeBrota ?

8. Qui doit être formé aux dangers et pourquoi ?

9. Quel est le moyen de s’assurer que les enfants seront en sécurité selon le texte ?

**5. PRONOUNS.** Say what the following pronouns refer to.

a. it

b. them

c. they