

You are going to read an article about literature and the Internet. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-H the one which fits each gap (1-7). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Since the Internet is a library with no staff, every user must know the basic standards that librarians, copy editors, and publishers use. These are simple to state, but not always so easy to apply, since they require either knowing the subject well or looking for corroboration in an independent source, something many of us are unwilling to do because it takes time. (1) _____. Incorrect dates, wrong page numbers in a reference to a printed text, names misspelled are among the most common errors. Misinformation and typographical errors are common and it can be dangerous to use any site lacking a very solid pedigree of factual information. Besides this, you should consider currency which is more important in literary studies than many of us realize: (2) _____. Many Shakespeare plays reproduced on the Internet, for example, fail to explain which version is being reproduced and why, so that you are not told the kind of revision which has been made. Once you have all this clear in your mind, you can investigate whether the material is complete or not. (3) _____. The first is often a problem with amateur sites where skimpy biographies and interpretive essays based on limited knowledge are common. The second problem, instead, is quite typical of ambitious sites. Since many sites go public before being finished, users should not trust menus without clicking through several layers. Take note: (4) _____. A good net surfer, then, should know whether a site is properly documented. Authors of headnotes, chronologies, and critical essays should be identified. You should also be given some information about who

digitized the text and by what method. (5) _____. With experience, most internet users become more discriminating, looking for and bookmarking only the best sites. (6) _____: some are comprehensive, some are authored by experts in the field, others are rich with hard to find material, others may be good for the classroom, and still others may be useful for a particular project. In addition to all this, one should consider also some technological standards and know whether all the links work and printing and downloading are easy: for many collecting such scraps of ideas and pieces of paper and spreading them out on a table is essential and satisfying. Easy printing and downloading accommodate such habits and suggest that a site is responsive to the needs of readers, writers, teachers, students and scholars who work in a wide variety of ways on an infinite number of projects. Although users may become quite good at evaluating sites, evaluations by experts can help us all find the best sites and also help us develop and fine-tune our own standards. (7) _____. As with reviews, awards and ratings may become useful in the near future, but they are not yet reliable indications of a truly accurate, thorough, and worthy literature site.

(Adapted from S. Browner-S. Pulsford-R. Sears, *Literature and the Internet. A Guide for Students, Teachers, and Scholars*, Garland Publishing, New York and London, 2000, pp.115-127.)

- A excellent sites vary in what they do well
- B if you seek a literary text on the web, you may want to investigate the integrity of the text itself
- C reviews of websites will become a reliable way of identifying good sites
- D site maps and menus may indicate what will be there in the future and not what is there now
- E both should be current and trouble free
- F the first thing to know is whether the information a site gives you is accurate or not
- G a site with little or no documentation should be used with caution
- H two problems are common: incomplete information and incomplete sites

KEYS

1 F - 2 B - 3 H - 4 D - 5 G - 6 A - 7 C (E is the extra sentence)