

Q) **Write an article on the use and abuse of Cyberspace**

Answer:

Use of computers has become widespread and accordingly the uses and misuses of the cyberspace have also multiplied. Cyberspace is an excellent way of getting information, giving information and also for entertainment. But it has potential dangers. These days we hear a lot about cybercrimes. The culprits are mostly young people, including students. Even as we acknowledge the importance of cyberspace in the modern world, should be aware of its potential dangers and how to avoid them.

Cyberspace is full of sites that give vulgar and explicit sex material. Young children are naturally curious about these things. So to prevent them from watching these things privately in their own rooms, computers should be kept in open view in a common hall. This way, children will be discouraged from visiting bad sites. There should be specific time schedule for browsing the net. Late-night browsing should be discouraged. When students are given assignments and projects they rush to the cyberspace for material. They download material from it and copy it in their assignments. Teachers should check the authenticity of the sources used in the papers given by the students. Many schools and colleges now have computers and the Internet, including Wi-Fi. Teachers must ensure that students do not misuse these facilities.

Counsellors have also a big role to play in the right use of the cyberspace. They should conduct awareness programmes on the various cyber security measures. The net addicted children should be given counselling in the school.

Students should be aware of the risks involved in the use of cyberspace. It is easy to fall into the mire of bad habits. It would be difficult to get out. Ultimately they are responsible for their acts and they are the masters of their destiny. They should not reveal their e-mail address to everyone and should use the cyberspace sensibly. Cyberspace is a double edged tool. It is like a knife and it can be used to cure (like a surgeon) or to kill.