

Dear Tessa,

This BBC proposal is an example of EXACTLY what should be developing on the Internet : excellent knowledge resources, free at the point of use.

Lots of institutions and companies worldwide have already done this: hence the fantastic free opportunities available to the learner or citizen world wide.

Trust the educational publishers to be opposed. They hoped to produce lots of garbage at a high price with little expertise like they did in the early days of "educational" computer software in the 1980's. Their model of making money from knowledge is dead. Let us move with the times, not oppose progress. They purport to be acting in our long term interest, but they are not. Creative effort will be paid for, but by institutions, corporations and governments, not "publishers". Publishing is now virtually a free activity, so a huge industry must die.

What the publishers should be trying to do to survive is get themselves sponsored -if they are worthy- by public bodies, museums, universities, manufacturers, etc etc to produce excellent internet resources for free publication to the public on the internet.

It is OUTRAGEOUS that the special interest of the educational publishers should be able to put a squeeze on the public enterprise of the BBC in this matter.

Knowledge is freedom. Control of knowledge is an evil. Let's keep education and knowledge free.

You are responsible for culture, so let's have it. Free.

This sort of thing is EXACTLY what the BBC and the government should be doing.

Yours,

Mark Jones