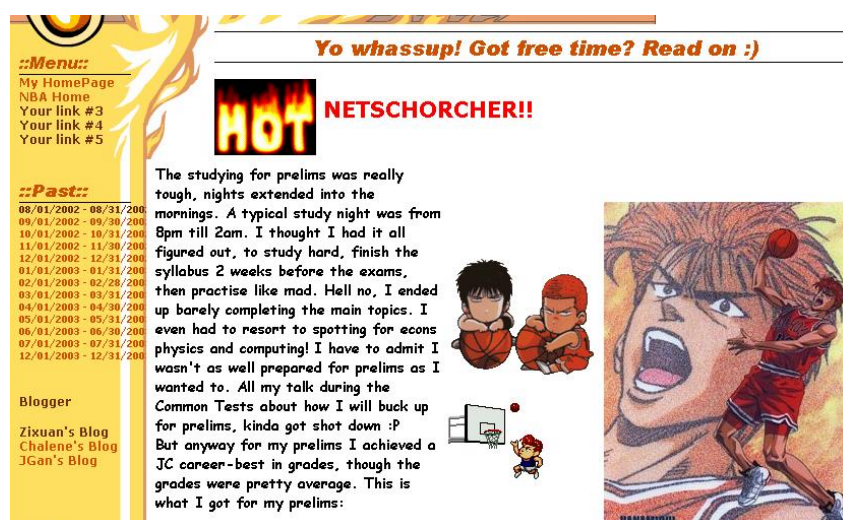


Get Blogging!

Writing your diary or posting journal notes on the web is known as weblog or in short, blog.



Blogs have been around for a long time, but Internet users in Asia are only beginning to use it. Few Asian adults have heard about blog, but to the Gen-Y and beyond, blogging has become a way of life.

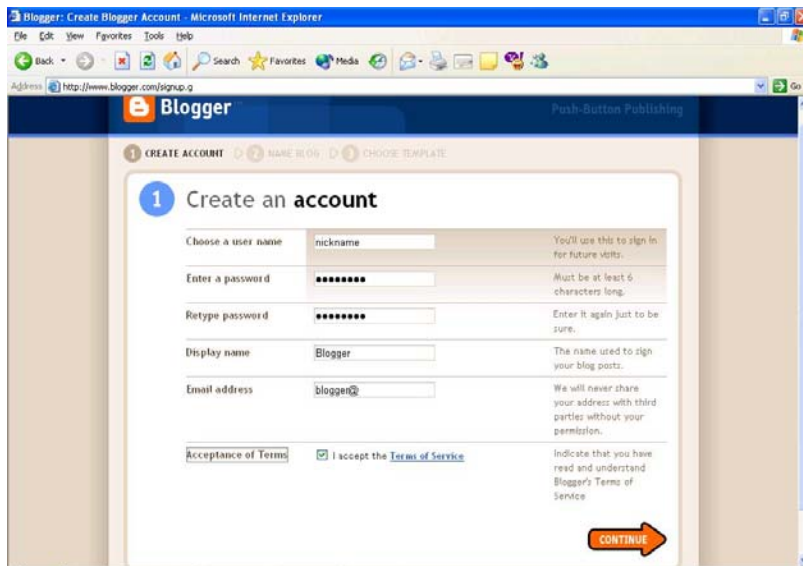
To the users of technology, *blog* can be a great tool for teaching and sharing information, a tool and resource for

informational exchange. A blog site can be a place for tutorial notes where bloggers can freely exchange their thoughts and share ideas without constraint or intimidation imposed by external environment, such as within a classroom. Bloggers can use nicknames if he or she does not want to be known.

Educational purpose aside, blogs can be a friendly and interactive way to communicate to masses and to people who share the same interest. Blogging is like topical newsgroup or a chat on line, but at a more personal level where pictures, sound can also be placed. In essence, it is the personal website of the blogger, created quickly using templates and updated easily by posting notes for instant automated publishing.

All of these sounds easy enough, but in actuality, a bit of HTML coding knowledge will be necessary, especially if pictures and sounds are to be incorporated to the site.





To be a blogger, user must first have a blogging account. For beginners, the easiest way is to get it from <http://www.blogger.com>. All that needs to be done is to register as a blogger and follow through the 3-step process to create an account, name the blog, and choose the template for the blogger's site look and feel. Once that is done, the next step is to fill up and complete the profile, add in a photograph image, and take

a preview of how the site looks.

At this stage, the blog site will probably look ordinary and plain because it lacks graphics. That is where some HTML knowledge is useful. It is easy to add images to the blog, but it is another issue when it comes to *trimming* the picture to size in order to fit it nicely to the site. To do that, HTML code similar to the following may be used within the text box of 'Create New Post':

```
<IMG SRC="http://www.nameofsite.com/image.jpg" width=nnn height=nnn>
```

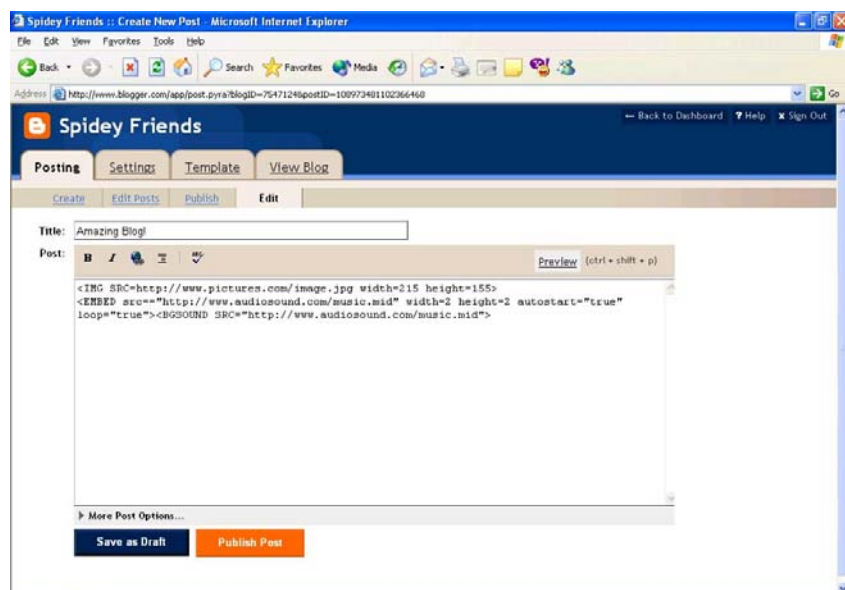
Adjust the *height* and *width* of the image as required, and make sure the Internet address is pointing to the specific image file.

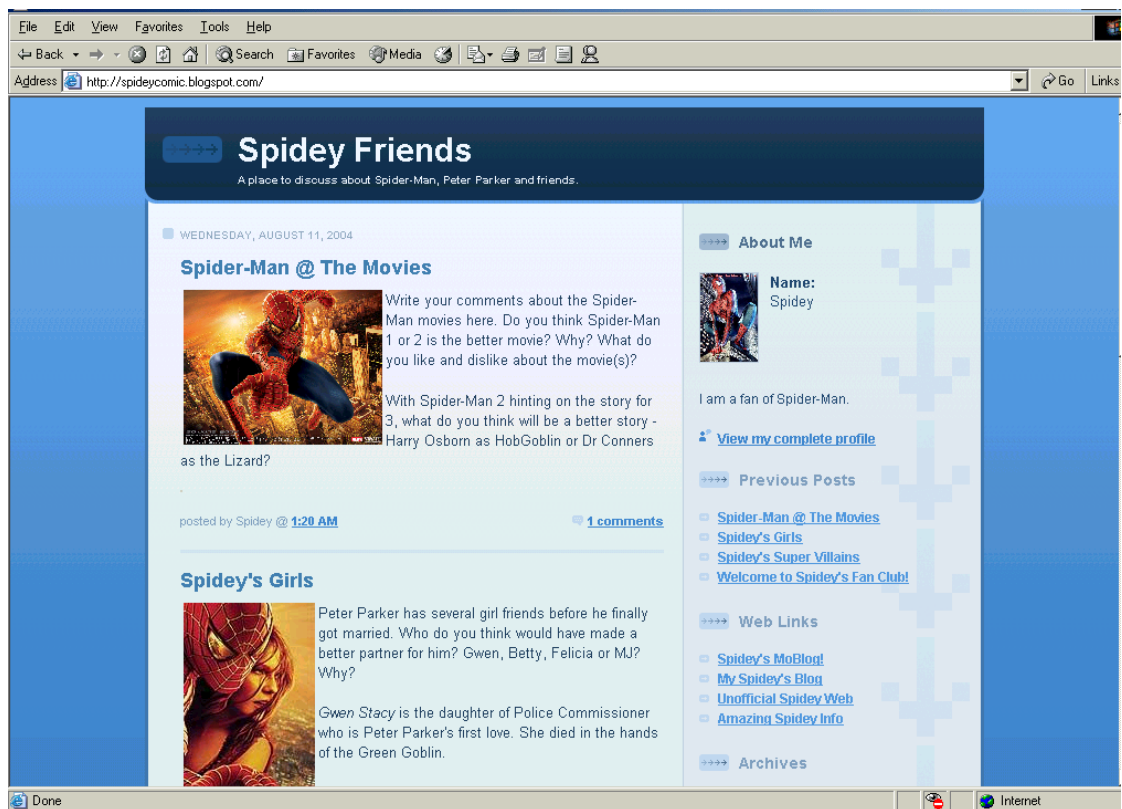
To add sound, an additional HTML code similar to the following will be required:

```
<embed src="http://www.audiosound.com/sound.mid" autostart="true" loop="true">
<bgsound src="http://www.audiosound.com/sound.mid">
```

The purpose of the two statements above is to provide support for the different Internet browsers.

With that completed, all that remains to be done is for regular updates through posting new notes and reading comments on the postings to share and exchange views.





For newbies needing advise on blogging or specific information on the subject, a good web site to visit will be: <http://www.bloggerforum.com>. For a sample of a blog site containing picture and sound, visit my blogs at: <http://spideycomic.blogspot.com> and <http://www.moblog.com.sg/blog/spidey>.

