

- **Bottom-up design:** Instead of code being written and controlled by a small group of experts, it was developed in full view of everyone, encouraging maximum participation and experimentation.
- **Universality:** For anyone to be able to publish anything on the web, all the computers involved have to speak the same languages to each other, no matter what different hardware people are using; where they live; or what cultural and political beliefs they have. In this way, the web breaks down silos while still allowing diversity to flourish.
- **Consensus:** For universal standards to work, everyone had to agree to use them. Tim and others achieved this consensus by giving everyone a say in creating the standards, through a transparent, participatory process at W3C.

New permutations of these ideas are giving rise to exciting new approaches in fields as diverse as information (Open Data), politics (Open Government), scientific research (Open Access), education, and culture (Free Culture). But to date we have only scratched the surface of how these principles could change society and politics for the better.

► **Activity 3: Decide if the following information is True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG):**

1. Tim Berners-Lee followed in his parents' footsteps by becoming a computer engineer.	
2. Tim never left England either for studies or for work.	
3. Tim used the accelerators at CERN, just like many other scientists from all over the world.	
4. The phrase "easier to go and ask people when they were having coffee" is evidence of the difficulty scientists at CERN had in communicating.	
5. Tim never relied on existing technologies in his efforts to solve the problem of information sharing.	
6. Tim's boss, Mike Sendall, never found Tim's proposal to his liking.	
7. Steve Jobs provided substantial assistance to Tim in the creation of the Web.	
8. The technologies that Lee wrote have now become obsolete.	
9. It is inferred from the text that Tim wrote the first web page editor/browser and the first web server in 1990.	
10. In Tim's opinion, the WWW became successful because its users were/are free to use it.	
11. The availability of the Web touched off an unprecedented boom of creativity in the mid-1990s.	
12. At the turn of the century, the Web was already 25 years old.	
13. The Web originated at MIT.	
14. The W3C's mission, to put it briefly, is to lead the WWW to its full potential.	
15. The phrase 'no kill switch' means that there is no mechanism for switching off or disabling the Web.	
16. According to the principle of equity, no user is given special treatment; they are all treated fairly.	
17. To develop the Web standards, Tim and his colleagues meet frequently at W3C, where everyone can express their opinion.	