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I belong to the generation who did not grow up with computers - even to the generation who thought they could do without, but then it dawned on me that if I wanted to live a bit longer I probably could not do without, so reluctantly I bought one and went to an introductory course for seniors. And now I can receive and write emails and find articles for the Helvetia on the internet. I can save them and edit them so that they fit - more or less. I could not do my work without the computer, that's for sure.

But do I enjoy using the computer? I certainly don't enjoy writing emails. You should see them in their original form, full, and I mean full, of mistakes. I don't know whether a spellcheck would help, as it isn't so much spelling mistakes as typing errors. So I painstakingly eliminate surplus letters and add the ones I had meant to write. For my private correspondence, I certainly stick with snail mail, where I can use nice paper and don't misspell the simplest words. The recipients might have a bit of a problem deciphering my writing and would prefer an email though...

Have you ever heard that the computer saves time? Maybe yours does; mine doesn't, on the contrary. With my best intentions I might google a word - which leads to googling another one, which leads to googling another one, and before I know it is an hour later; I have read many stories I wouldn't have read otherwise and I did not need to read. Maybe they should invent a computer with inbuilt self-discipline. I took a first step in this direction: I unplugged the speakers, so music and the spoken word is out of reach.

However, I'm very, very grateful that Heidi is able to produce such a handsome, elegant Helvetia, and nothing ever seems to be a problem or too difficult.

Trudi

Contact Trudi if you are interested in any of the following books.

Michail Scholochow:

Der stille Don

Max von Boehn:

Die Mode im 18. Jahrhundert

Die Mode im 19. Jahrhundert

Romain Rolland: Sommer

Pestalozzi: Ausgewählte Schriften

Pestalozzi: Lebensweisheit

Pestalozzi: Worte

Ken Follett:

Nacht über den Wassern

Giovanni Arpino:

Der Duft der Frauen

Immanuel Kant:

Kritik der reinen Vernunft

Piero Bianconi: Kreuze und

Kornleitern im Tessin

Alfred A. Häsler:

Das Abenteuer Migros

Alexander Dumas:

Die drei Musketiere

Mika Waltari:

Sinuhe der Aegypter

Ozeanien, Australien; Museum

für Völkerkunde Wien

Bernard Shaw:

Der gesunde Menschenverstand

Frank Thiess:

Das Reich der Dämonen

Lily Brett: Alles halb so schlimm!

Yigal Lev: Ich hasse den Krieg

Arno Surminski:

Wie Königsberg im Winter

M. Rado (hersg.):

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Alexandra Cordes:

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