Information Technology Terminology

Information
Systems Analysts
& Consultants

Acknowledgments

Winnipeg Technical College and the Department of Labour and Immigration of Manitoba wish to express sincere appreciation to all contributors.

Special acknowledgments are extended to the following individuals:

Disclaimer

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Introduction

To become a computer/network operator, web technician, information systems analyst/consultant or a web designer/developer, you first need to learn the technical vocabulary (language) of information technology. The sections in this booklet introduce you to some of the basic terms of information technology. Once you understand the language of information technology, you will be prepared to interpret and communicate information accurately.

This guide mainly focuses on some of the essential terms for drafting. Self-tests and answer keys have been included in this guide. The activities are meant to be completed after you have studied the corresponding unit. After you feel you have understood the material you have read, you can then test yourself. If you are scoring below 80% on the self-tests, it is recommended that you go back and review those areas.

Computer Hardware

System Unit   Screen   Monitor

Speaker   Speaker

Keyboard   Mouse   Microphone

Hard disk   CD

Floppy Disk

Hard drive (C:)   CD Drive (D:)

The hard drive and RAM are inside the system unit. You can't see them.

Floppy Drive (A:)

Random Access Memory (RAM)
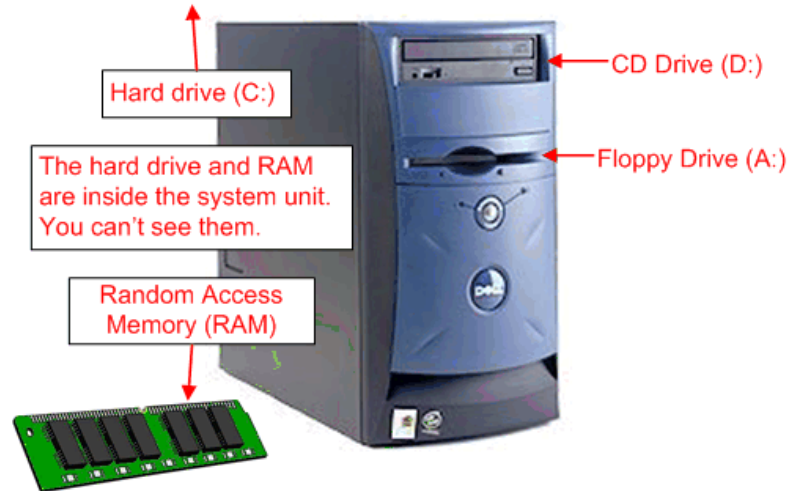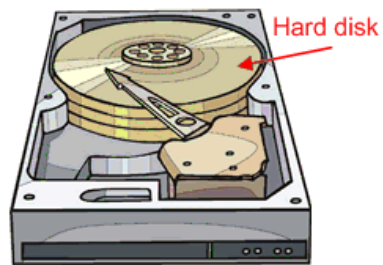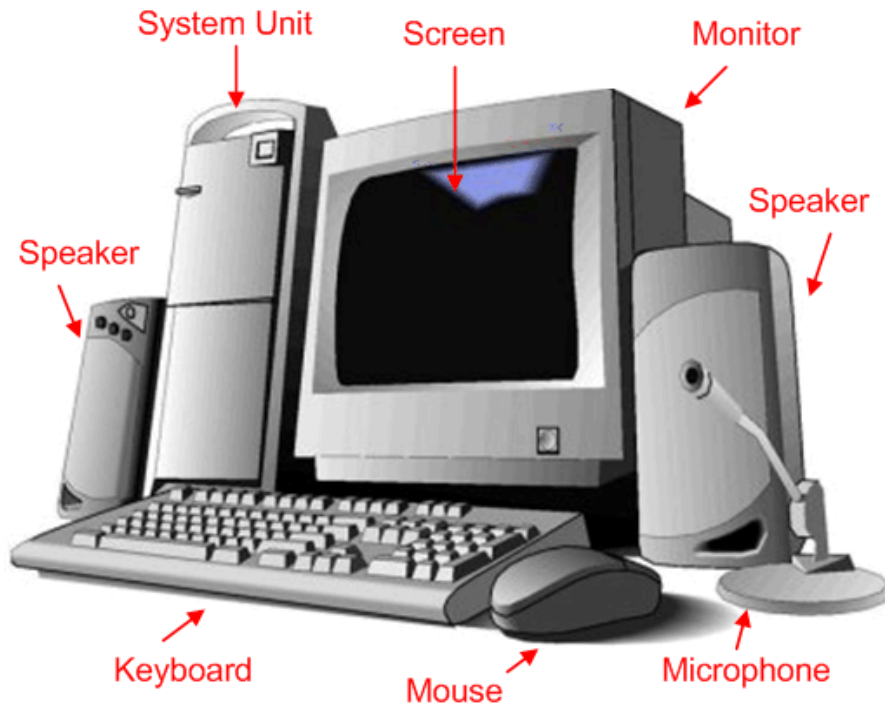
Basic Information Technology Terminology - Part 1

ACPI - Advanced Configuration and Power Interface enables the operating system to control the amount of power given to each device attached to the computer.

Address Bus - A unidirectional pathway that carries addresses generated by the CPU to the memory and I/O elements of the computer. *Also see **I/O, Bus, Data Bus,** Internal **Bus.***

AGP - Accelerated Graphics Port is a dedicated high-speed bus that is used to support the high demands of graphical software. This slot is reserved for video adapters only. *Also see **Bus, PCI, Expansion Slot**.*

Algorithm - A systematic procedure that performs a specific task. Computers use algorithms to speed up and simplify procedures.

ALU - Arithmetic/Logic Unit is the component of the CPU that performs both the arithmetic and the logical operations for the computer. *Also see –**CPU, Control Unit.***

Analog - A type of device that represents data by continuously variable physical quantities, such as length, mass, temperature or pressure.

Analog Modem - A modulator-demodulator that converts the computer's digital pulses to tones that are carried over analog telephone lines. *Also see **Modem**.*

AP - 1) Application process. 2) Application processor.

Application - A program that performs a function directly for a user.

ASCII - American Standard Code for Information Interchange is a code for representing English characters as numbers, with each letter assigned a number from 0 to 127, making it possible to transfer data from one computer to another.

Asynchronous - In terms of data transmission, asynchronous means that no clock or timing source is needed to keep both the sender and the receiver synchronized.

AT - Advanced Technology is an IBM PC model with an Intel 80286 processor. This term is used to describe the form factor of one type of computer motherboard, power supply and case.

TM - Asynchronous Transfer Mode is a network technology based on transferring data in cells or packets of a fixed size. The small, constant cell size allows ATM equipment to transmit video, audio and other data over the same network, assuring that no single type of data hogs the line. *Also see* **Network.**

AVI - Audio Video Interleave is the standard audio/video format for Microsoft Windows. AVI files, which end with an avi extension, require a special player.

Backbone - The main wire that connects nodes. The term is used to describe the main network connections composing the Internet. *Also see* **Commercial Backbone, Internet Backbone**.

Baud - The number of signaling elements that occurs each second, which is named after the inventor of the Baudot telegraph code, J.M.E. Baudot.

BBS - Bulletin Board System is an electronic message centre that serves specific interest groups.

Binary - A number system using two unique digits. Because of a computer's electrical nature, all operations are performed using a representation of an open or closed circuit (0 for off, and 1 for on); therefore, computers use the binary

system when calculating operations. *Also see **Decimal, Hexadecimal, Numbering System.***

Bios - Basic Input / Output System. The program stored in a ROM chip in the computer that provides the computer with basic code to control the computer's hardware and perform diagnostics on it. The BIOS prepares the computer to load the operating system. *Also see **Chip, ROM, CMOS***.

Bit - Binary Digit is the smallest unit of information in a computer. A bit can take the value of either one or zero, and it is the binary format in which data is processed by computers. *Also see **Byte.***

Bitmap-Based - A type of printer font that is represented as a graphics image with rows and columns of dots. This type of font is also known as raster-based. *Also see **Font.***

Boolean - A form of algebra where all values are reduced to "true" or "false." Boolean logic is used with computers due to its similarities with the binary numbering system. *Also see **Binary, Numbering System.***

Boot - To start a computer. This refers to pulling on the bootstraps on the top of your boots to help get your boots on, and compares the action to taking the first step in a process. *Also see **Cold Boot, Warm Boot.***

Boot Disk - A disk that can be used to start up a computer. The boot disk contains the files needed for an operating system to run. *Also see **Boot.***

Bootstrap Program - A small program located in the BIOS chip that tests the computer's hardware then locates and loads the operating system into RAM. *Also see **BIOS, Chip, RAM, Boot***.

Broadcast Domain - Set of all devices that receive broadcast frames originating from any device within the set. Broadcast domains typically are bounded by routers because routers do not forward broadcast frames.

Bus - The media through which data is transferred from one part of a computer to another. The bus can be compared to a highway on which data travels within a computer. *Also see **Address Bus, Control Bus, Data Bus, Expansion Bus, Internal Bus.***

Byte - A byte is a unit of measure used to describe an amount of data. One byte consists of eight bits of data. *Also see **Megabyte, Gigabyte, Bit, File.***

Cable - The media that connects electrical components. Cable consists of a group of mutually insulated conductors usually bound or sheathed together and carrying an electrical or other type of signal.

Cable Modem - Modulator-demodulator device that is placed at a subscriber location to convey data communications on a cable television system.

Cache - The storage of instructions or data for future use. *Also see **RAM.***

CAD – Computer-aided design describes the use of computers to design products. CAD systems are high-speed workstations or desktop computers with specialized CAD software.

Category 1 Cable - A type of power limited UTP cable used for alarm systems and basic communications. *Also see **UTP.***

Category 2 Cable - A low performance UTP cable used for voice and other low speed data applications. *Also see **UTP.***

Category 3 Cable - A type of UTP cable used for hardware with transmission characteristics up to 16 MHz. Typical applications include 10BASE-T Ethernet, 4-

Mbps Token Ring and basic rate ISDN. *Also see* **UTP, Ethernet, Mbps, Token Ring, ISDN.**

Category 4 Cable - A little-used UTP cable used for applications including 16 Mbps Token Ring. *Also see* **UTP, Token Ring**.

Category 5 Cable - A type of UTP cable used for most new data installations. It supports hardware with transmission characteristics up to 100 MHz. Typical applications include 16 Mbps Token Ring and Ethernet, among others. *Also see* **UTP, Token Ring, Ethernet**.

Category 5e Cable - A Category 5 type UTP cable used for higher transmission bandwidth for the frequencies beyond 100MHz.

CB - Citizens Band is a radio-frequency band used specifically for private radio communications.

CDDI - Copper Distributed Data Interface is the implementation of FDDI protocols over STP and UTP cabling.

CD-ROM - Compact Disk Read Only Memory is a type of optical disk capable of storing up to one gigabyte of data. *Also see* **Byte, Megabyte, Gigabyte.**

Channel - A pathway or route through which information is transmitted. *Also see* **Bus.**

Chip - A very small slice of silicon or germanium processed to have electrical characteristics so that it can be developed into an electronic component. *Also see* **CPU, Semiconductor.**

Circuit Board - A thin plate on which chips and other electronic components are attached.

CLI - Command-line interface is an interface that allows the user to interact with the operating system by entering commands and optional arguments. The UNIX operating system and DOS provide CLIs.

Client - An application that runs on a computer relying on a server to perform certain operations. *Also see **Server, Client Operating System, Client/Server.***

Client Operating System - Also referred to as a desktop operating system, it is the operating system software that runs on the network's workstations that can access resources on the network. *Also see **Operating System, Resources, Network.***

Client/Server - The relationship between computers on a network where the "client" computer uses the resources on a "server" computer. *Also see **Client, Server, Resources.***

CMOS - Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor is a type of semiconductor that requires very little power. Personal computers use this device to store the date, time and system configuration data. *Also see **Semiconductor, ROM, Chip.***

CMTS - Cable Modem Termination System is a component that exchanges digital signals with cable modems on a cable network. A cable modem termination system is located at the local office of a cable television company.

Coax - Coaxial cable is copper-cored cable surrounded by a heavy shielding that is used to connect computers in a network. Either thin or thick coax can be used.

Crossword 1
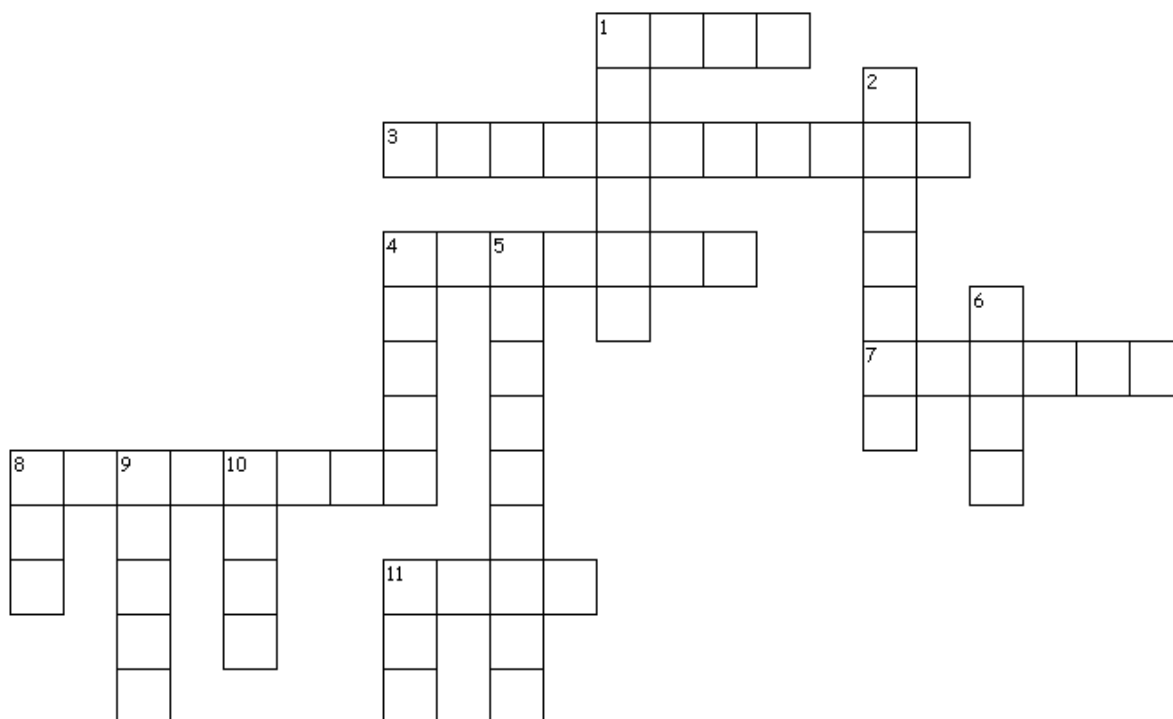
Across

1. A very small slice of silicon or germanium processed to have electrical characteristics so that it can be developed into an electronic component
3. A program that performs a function directly for a user
4. A pathway or route through which information is transmitted
7. A type of device that represents data by continuously variable physical quantities, such as length, mass, temperature or pressure
8. The main wire that connects nodes
11. A unit of measure used to describe an amount of data

Down

1. An application that runs on a computer relying on a server to perform certain operations
2. A form of algebra where all values are reduced to true or false
4. The media that connects electrical components
5. A systematic procedure that performs a specific task
6. The number of signalling elements that occur each second
8. Binary digit is the smallest unit of information in a computer
9. The storage of instructions or data for future use
10. To start a computer
11. The media through which data is transferred from one part of a computer to another

Basic Information Technology Terminology - Part 2

Cold Boot - Powering a computer up from the off position. *Also see* **Boot, Warm Boot**.

Collision Domain - In Ethernet, the network area within which frames that have collided are propagated. Repeaters and hubs propagate collisions; LAN switches, bridges and routers do not.

COM - Common equipment describes items used by more than one channel or equipment function.

Commercial Backbone - An Internet work of commercially operated networks that are provided by telecommunications companies. Internet service providers (ISPs) connect to these commercial networks to provide connections to the Internet. *Also see* **Backbone, ISP, Internet.**

Computer - An electrical machine that can execute a list of instructions and perform calculations based on these instructions.

Configuration - The components that make up a computer system when referring to hardware, or the defined parameters of a device when referring to software. *Also see* **Hardware, Software**.

Connectivity Devices - Devices that are used to connect cable segments, connect two or more smaller networks into a larger network, or divide a large network into smaller ones.

Control Bus - This bus carries the control and timing signals needed to coordinate the activities of the entire computer. Control bus signals are not necessarily related to each other. Some are output signals from the CPU and

others are input signals to the CPU from I/O elements of the system. *Also see Bus, Address Bus, Data Bus, Internal Bus.*

Controller - A chip or device that controls data transfer between the computer and the devices that are attached to it. *Also see Chip.*

Control Unit - The component of the CPU that instructs the rest of the computer system on how to follow a program's instructions. It directs the movement of data to and from processor memory, holds data and instructions in the ALU, and directs control signals between the CPU and external devices. *Also see CPU, ALU*.

Coprocessor - A processing unit that assists the CPU with certain types of operations to free the CPU of common tasks that can slow it down. *Also see CPU.*

Corona Wire - A wire in a laser printer or photocopier that is subjected to high voltage, which is transferred to the drum and paper in the form of static electricity to charge the surface with positive ions.

CPU - Central Processing Unit is the chip or PCB where most of the calculations in the computer take place. *Also see Control Unit, ALU, Chip, PCB.*

Cross Talk - Interfering energy transferred from one circuit to another.

CRT - Cathode Ray Tube is an electronic device that fires an electron beam across a phosphorous coated tube to illuminate parts of the screen. When many passes are made across the screen, the screen produces an image. CRTs are used in television sets and computer monitors.

CSMA/CD - Carrier Sense Multiple Access Collision Detect is a media-access mechanism wherein devices ready to transmit data first check the channel for a carrier. If no carrier is sensed for a specific period of time, a device can transmit.

If two devices transmit at once, a collision occurs and is detected by all colliding devices. This collision subsequently delays retransmissions from those devices for some random length of time. Ethernet and IEEE 802.3 use CSMA/CD access.

DAC - Digital to Analog Converter is a device that converts digital data into analog signals. *Also see Digital, Analog*.

Daemon - A program that runs in the background and performs specific functions at certain times or in response to events.

DARPA - Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is the central research and development organization for the Department of Defense.

Database - A collection of data that is organized so that its contents can be easily accessed, managed and updated.

Data Bus - A bi-directional pathway for data flow. Data can flow along this bus from the CPU to memory during a write operation, and data can move from the computer memory to the CPU during a read operation. *Also see Bus, Address Bus, Control Bus, Internal Bus.*

DDR SDRAM - Double Data Rate SDRAM is a type of memory that doubles in bandwidth by transferring data twice per cycle (on both the rising and falling edges of the clock signal). *Also see SDRAM, DRAM, RAM*.

Decimal - A number system based on the number "10". This number system is used on an everyday basis. *Also see Numbering System, Hexadecimal.*

Default - A value or setting that is automatically applied by a device or program.

Desktop - The metaphor used to portray file systems. A desktop consists of pictures, called icons, which show files, folders and any resource available to a user in a GUI operating system. *Also see GUI, Operating System, Icon.*

Desktop Computer - A type of computer designed to fit on top of a desk, usually with the monitor on top of the computer to conserve space.

DHCP - Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol provides a mechanism for allocating IP addresses dynamically, so that addresses can be reused when hosts no longer need them.

Diagnostic - Serving to identify the cause of a problem, as in diagnostic software, that will find out what problem a computer may be having.

Digital - A system that is based on events or data that is not continuous, such as the binary system. *Also see* **Binary, Analog**.

Digitize - To convert data to digital form. *Also see* **Digital.**

Dimn - Dual Inline Memory Module is a circuit board with a 64-bit data bus that holds memory chips. *Also see* **Circuit Board, RAM, SIMM.**

Din - Deutsche Industrinorm is the standards-setting organization for Germany.

Dip Switch - A small switch on a circuit board used for configuring the board for a specific application. *Also see* **Circuit Board, Configuration.**

Directory - A type of file that organizes other files in a hierarchical structure. *Also see* **File.**

DMA - Direct Memory Access is a method for transferring data from the computer's main memory directly to the device that needs it, without it having to pass to and from the CPU. This makes the transfer faster. *Also see* **I/O Address, IRQ**.

DNS - Domain Name System is an Internet service that converts names to IP addresses. *Also see* **IP Address, TCP/IP**.

DoD Four-Layer Model - The Department of Defense's DARPA Internet work Project model that eventually grew into the Internet. *Also see* **DARPA.**

Domain - A logical group of computers and electronic devices with a common set of rules and procedures administered as a unit.

DOS - Disk Operating System is a 16-bit command-line interface operating system that does not support multiple users or multi-tasking. *Also see Operating* **System.**

Dot Matrix - A type of printer that produces characters and illustrations by striking pins against an ink ribbon and print media to print closely spaced dots in a certain configuration, much like a typewriter.

Download - To copy data from a main source to a peripheral device, such as the transfer of a file from an ISP or BBS to a local computer. *Also see* **Peripheral, File, ISP, BBS.**

Downstream - Set of frequencies used to send data from the head end to a subscriber.

DPI - Dots Per Inch is a measurement that indicates the resolution of an image. The more dots per inch, the higher or better the resolution of the image will be.

DRAM - Dynamic Random Access Memory is a type of RAM that only holds its data if it is continuously accessed by special logic called a refresh circuit. *Also see* **RAM.**

DRDRAM - Direct Rambus DRAM is memory that works more like an internal bus than a conventional memory subsystem. DRDRAM is based around the Direct Rambus Channel, a high-speed 16-bit bus running at a clock rate of 400 MHz, where transfers are accomplished on the rising and falling edges of the

clock to run at much higher speeds than would be possible if the bus were wide. *Also see **RAM, DRAM.***

DSL - Digital Subscriber Line is a sophisticated modulation method for transmitting data over copper wires. *Also see **Digital**.*

Dumb Terminal - Low cost devices that usually consist of a monitor, keyboard and a communication port to talk to a mainframe computer. Initially, these terminals were hard-wired directly to communication ports on the mainframe and the communications were asynchronous. *Also see **Mainframe.***

DVD-ROM - Digital Versatile Disk Read Only Memory is an optical storage media capable of holding from 4.7 GBs to 17GBs with faster access and transfer rates than CD-ROMs. *Also see **CD-ROM, Gigabyte.***

EDO DRAM - Extended Data Output DRAM is a type of memory that can access more than one block of data at a time to speed transfer rates. *Also see **RAM, DRAM.***

EEPROM - Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory is a special type of PROM that can be erased by exposure to an electrical charge. *Also see -* **PROM, RAM, EPROM, CMOS.**

Acronyms: Fill in the Blank 1

Directions: Read pages the Basic Information Technology Terminology. Study the acronyms that are used. Write down what the acronyms stand for.

Example: DSL = _Digital Subscriber Line_

1. COM: _____

2. CPU: _____

3. CRT: _____

4. CSMA/CD: _____

5. DAC: _____

6. DARPA: _____

7. DDR SDRAM: _____

8. DHCP: _____

9. DMA: _____

10. DNS: _____

11. DNS: _____

12. DOS: _____

13. DPI: _____

14. DRAM: _____

15. DRDRAM: _____

16. DVD-ROM: _____

17. EDO DRAM: _____

18. EEPROM: _____

Basic Information Technology Terminology – Part 3

EIDE - Enhanced Integrated Drive Electronics is a mass storage standard that supports data transfer rates between 4 and 16.6 MBps and devices up to 8.4 GB in size. *Also see **IDE, MB, GB**.*

EMI - Electromagnetic Interference is interference by electromagnetic signals that can cause reduced data integrity and increased error rates on transmission channels.

Encryption - The translation of data into a code that needs to be decrypted for it to be legible.

EPROM - Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory is a special type of memory that can be erased by exposure to ultraviolet light. *Also see **ROM, PROM, EEPROM, CMOS.***

ESD - Electrostatic Discharge describes the discharge of static electricity from one conductor to another conductor of a different potential.

Ethernet - A LAN protocol developed in 1976 by Xerox Corporation in co-operation with DEC and Intel. Ethernet uses a bus or star topology and supports data transfer rates of 10 Mbps. *Also see **LAN, Network, Topology, Mbps.***

Expansion Board - A PCB inserted into a computer's expansion slot to increase the capabilities of the computer. *Also see **PCB, PCI, Expansion Slot, Expansion Bus.***

Expansion Bus - This bus enables expansion boards to access the CPU and memory. *Also see **Expansion Board, PCI, CPU, Bus, Control Bus.***

Expansion Slots - An opening on a computer where a PCB or PC Card can be inserted to add capabilities to the computer. *Also see **ISA, PCI, BUS, Expansion Bus, Expansion Board, PCMCIA, PCB.***

FAT - File Allocation Table is used by the operating system to store information about where files are stored on a disk. The File Allocation Table is much like the table of contents in a book. *Also see **Operating System, File**.*

FDDI - Fibre Distributed Data Interface is a set of protocols that allows the transmission of data over fiber optic cable. *Also see **Fibre Optics, Protocol.***

FDM - Frequency-division Multiplexing is a technique whereby information from multiple channels can be allocated bandwidth on a single wire based on frequency.

Fibre Optics - Cabling that has a core made of strands of glass or plastic, through which light pulses are carried. Fibre has many advantages over copper in terms of transmission rate and signal integrity over distance; however, it is more expensive and more difficult to work with. *Also see –**FDDI, Cable.***

File - A collection of similar information given a name for easy storage and retrieval. See also: *Also see **File Management System***.

File Management System - A collection of similar information given a name for easy storage and retrieval. *Also see **File***.

File Transfer Protocol (FTP) - The protocol used by the Internet community to send files. *Also see –**Protocol, Internet.***

Firmware - Data that has been stored on ROM chips. *Also see **Chip, ROM, PROM, EPROM, EEPROM, CMOS.***

Flash ROM - A special type of memory that can be reprogrammed in blocks of data instead of one byte at a time. *Also see* **ROM, PROM, EPROM, EEPROM, CMOS.**

Floppy Disk - A portable, removable magnetic disk used to store data using a floppy disk drive. *Also see* **Floppy Disk Drive.**

Floppy Disk Drive (FDD) - A device that spins a magnetic floppy disk to read and write data on it. See also: *Also see* **Floppy Disk.**

Folder - An object in a graphical user interface capable of storing multiple files and other folders. *Also see –***File, GUI**.

Font - The combination of typeface and other qualities such as size, pitch and spacing, that comprise a set of characters.

FPM RAM - Fast Page Mode RAM is a type of memory that gives faster access to data that resides on the same page. *Also see* **RAM**.

Freeware - Software that is given away freely by the author for private use. The copyright is retained by the author of the software. *Also see* **Software, Shareware.**

Fuser - A roller within a laser printer or photocopier that uses high heat to melt toner particles to paper. See also: *Also see* **Toner**.

GDI - Graphical Device Interface is a Windows standard for transmitting graphical objects directly to output devices, such as monitors and printers, to increase the speed of the output.

Gigabyte (GB) - One thousand Megabytes. *Also see –***Megabyte, Byte.**

Gigahertz (Ghz) - One billion (1,000,000,000) cycles per second. This is a common measurement of the speed of a processing chip.

Ground - An electrical connection with a common return for a circuit with an arbitrary zero of potential.

GUI - Graphical User Interface is software that uses a computer's graphics ability to organize and display resources and objects making it easier to use and eliminating the need for a command-line interface. *Also see –Software, Resources.*

Hard Disk Drive (HDD) - The device that stores and retrieves data from hard disks. *Also see Floppy Disk Drive.*

Hardware - The physical electronic components that make up a computer system.

Heat Sink - A device that dissipates heat from electronic components into the surrounding air.

Hexadecimal - The base-16 number system. This system can represent a byte as two consecutive hexadecimal digits. See also: *Also see Decimal, Numbering System.*

Hertz - A unit of frequency. It is the rate of change in the state or cycle in a sound wave, alternating current or other cyclical waveform. *Also see Microprocessor.*

Host - A computer system that is accessed by a user at a remote location.

Hybrid Network - A network in which the software products of different vendors interoperate, especially concerning the server operating systems. See also: *Also see Network, Server, Operating System.*

Hyperlink - An item in an electronic document that links to another object such as a position in a document or a different document.

Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) - This is the language used to write World Wide Web documents. *Also see* ***World Wide Web, Hypertext Transfer Protocol.***

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) - The protocol of the World Wide Web. This protocol provides standards by which messages are formatted and sent. *Also see* ***World Wide Web, Hypertext Markup Language, Protocol.***

Icon - A small graphical representation of an object in a graphical user interface (GUI). *Also see* ***GUI.***

Matching 1

1. Objects in a graphical user interface, _____ are capable of storing multiple files.

2. Cabling that has a core made of strands of glass or plastic is called _____.

3. A unit of frequency, a _____ is the rate of change in the state or cycle in a sound wave, alternating current or other cyclical waveform.

4. The translation of data into a code that needs to be decrypted to become legible is known as _____.

5. A _____ is the combination of typeface and other qualities such as size, pitch and spacing, that comprise a set of characters.

6. _____ is the physical electronic components that make up a computer system.

7. Small graphical representations of an object in a graphical user interface (GUI) are called _____.

8. A _____ is an electrical connection with a common return for a circuit with an arbitrary zero of potential.

9. A collection of similar information given a name for easy storage and retrieval is called a _____.

10. An item in an electronic document, a _____ links to another object such as a position in a document or a different document.

11. _____ is the language used to write World Wide Web documents.

12. Openings on a computer where a PCB or PC card can be inserted to add capabilities to the computer are called _____.

A. Font

B. Ground

C. Encryption

D. Hyperlink

E. Fiber optics

F. Expansion slots

G. Hertz

H. Folders

I. File

J. Hardware

K. Hypertext Markup Language (HTML)

L. Icons

Basic Information Technology Terminology – Part 4

ICMP - Internet Control Message Protocol is a network layer Internet protocol that reports errors and provides other information relevant to IP packet processing. Documented in RFC 792.

IDE - Integrated Drive Electronics

IETF - Internet Engineering Task Force is the primary standards organization for the Internet and is made up of developers, network operators and developers, and anyone who is interested in the evolution of the Internet. See also: *Also see **Internet, Network.***

IMAP - Internet Message Access Protocol is a protocol for retrieving e-mail that supports more advanced features than POP3. See also: *Also see **Protocol, E-Mail, POP.***

IMTC - International Multimedia Teleconferencing Consortium is a non-profit corporation comprising more than 150 companies with the intention of promoting the development and use of interoperable multimedia teleconferencing with international standards.

Infrared - A type of light wave capable of transmitting data from one device to another without using cables.

Internal Bus - The bus that connects all the internal computer components to the CPU and main memory. See also: *Also see **Bus, Address Bus, Data Bus, Control Bus.***

Internet - The decentralized global network that connects millions of computers worldwide. *Also see **Network.***

Internet Backbone - A group of pathways used by local networks to connect over long distances. The Internet backbones are made up of connection points called nodes. See also: *Also see* **Network, Backbone, Commercial Backbone.**

I/O - Input / Output describes any operation, program, or device that transfers data to or from a computer. Typical I/O devices are printers, hard disks, keyboards and mice.

I/O Address - Resources used by virtually every device in the computer that represent locations in memory that are designated for use by various devices to exchange information between themselves and the rest of the PC. *Also see I /O, Peripheral, Resources.*

IP - A protocol that allows a package to be addressed and dropped in the system. There is no direct link between the sender and the recipient. *Also see –Protocol, TCP/IP.*

IP Address - A numerical identifier for an electronic device on a network utilizing the TCP/IP protocol in the form of a 32-bit numeric address written as four numbers separated by periods. See also: *Also see* **TCP/IP, Binary, Numbering System, Protocol.**

IRC - Internet Relay Chat is a chat system that allows people from around the world to participate in live chat sessions.

IRQ - Interrupt Request Line describes the hardware devices used to send interrupt signals to the CPU in a computer. *Also see –***DMA, I/O Address.**

ISA - Industry Standard Architecture is a 16-bit expansion slot that transfers data with the motherboard at 8 MHz. *Also see* **Expansion Slot, Hertz.**

ISDN - Integrated Services Digital Network is a standard for sending data, voice and video over telephone lines supporting a data transfer rate of 64 Kbps. ISDN

service normally provides two lines called B channels, where one line is used for data and one for voice. It is possible to use both lines for data, achieving transfer rates up to 128 Kbps

ISO - International Organization for Standardization is an international organization that is responsible for a wide range of standards, including those relevant to networking. ISO developed the OSI reference model, a popular networking reference model.

ISP - Internet Service Provider is a company that provides users with a connection to the Internet. *Also see **Internet.***

IT - Information Technology encompasses the subject concerned with all aspects of managing and processing information.

ITU - International Telecommunications Union is an intergovernmental organization through which public and private organizations develop telecommunications. The ITU is responsible for adopting international treaties, regulations and standards governing telecommunications. *Also see **Telecommunications.***

Jumper - A small metal bridge used to close an electrical circuit when configuring the parameters of a circuit board or electronic device. *Also see **Circuit Board.***

Kernal - The main module of the operating system that provides all the essential services needed by applications. *Also see **Operating System**.*

Keyboard - The device used to enter data into a computer using typewriter-like keys.

Kilobit (Kb) - Approximately 1000 bits (precisely 1024 bits). *Also see –**Bit, Byte.***

Kilobits per second (Kbps) - This is a standard measurement of the amount of data transferred over a network connection. Kbps is a data transfer rate of approximately 1,000 bits per second.

Kilobyte (KB) - Approximately 1000 bytes (precisely 1024 bytes). *Also see –***Bit, Byte.**

Kilobytes per second (KBps) – This is a standard for the measurement of the amount of data transferred over a network connection. KBps is a data transfer rate of approximately 1,000 bytes per second.

LAN - Local Area Network is a network that is confined to a limited geographic area. This can be a room, a floor, a building or even an entire campus. *Also see* **Network, MAN, WAN.**

Laptop Computer - A self-contained portable computer small enough to use on a person's lap.

Laser - Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation describes a device that generates electromagnetic radiation in the form of visible, infrared or ultraviolet light.

LED - Light Emitting Diode is a semiconductor device that emits visible light when an electric current passes through it. *Also see* **Semiconductor**.

Logical Topology - The path that signals take from one computer to another that can correspond to the physical topology. See also: *Also see* **Physical Topology, Topology.**

LPT - Line Printer Terminal is the designation of any printer as seen by an operating system. *Also see* **Operating System.**

Macintosh - A computer manufactured by Apple Computer Company featuring a GUI, windows, icons and the use of the mouse to navigate. *Also see –***GUI, Icon.**

MAE - Metropolitan Area Exchanges is a network access point where Internet service providers connect to each other. *Also see* **Network, AP, Internet, ISP.**

Mainframe - A large and expensive computer capable of supporting hundreds, or even thousands, of users simultaneously.

MAN - Metropolitan-Area Network is a network between the LAN and the WAN in size. This is a network that covers roughly the area of a large city or metropolitan area. *Also see* **Network, LAN, WAN.**

Acronyms 2: Fill in the Blank

Directions: Read the Basic Information Technology Terminology section. Study the acronyms that are used. Write down what the acronyms stand for.

Example: DSL = _Digital Subscriber Line_

1. ICMP:_____

2. IDE:_____

3. IETF:_____

4. IMAP:_____

5. MTC:_____

6. I/O:_____

7. IRC:_____

8. IRQ:_____

9. ISA:_____

10. ISDN:_____

11. ISO:_____

12. ISP:_____

13. IT:_____

14. ITU:_____

15. LAN:_____

16. LED:_____

17. LPT:_____

18. MAE:_____

Basic Information Technology Terminology – Part 5

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) - Data sheets on hazardous materials indicating hazards and their handling.

Media - The various physical environments through which transmission signals pass. –*Also see **Fiber Optic, Coax, Cable.***

Megabit (Mb) - Approximately 1 million (actually 1,048,576) bits. *Also see –**Bit, Byte.***

Megabit per second (Mbps) - This is a standard for the measurement of the amount of data transferred over a network connection. Mbps is a data transfer rate of approximately 1,000,000 (106) bits per second.

Megabyte (MB) - Approximately 1 million (actually 1,048,576) bytes. A megabyte is sometimes referred to as a "meg". S *Also see –**Bit, Byte.***

Megabyte per second (MBps) - This is a standard for the measurement of the amount of data transferred over a network connection. MBps is a data transfer rate of approximately 1,000,000 (106) bytes per second.

Megahertz (Mhz) - One million cycles per second. This is a common measurement of the speed of a processing chip.

Microprocess - A chip that contains a CPU *Also see –**Chip, CPU.***

Minicomputer - A multiprocessing system capable of providing resources to between four and 200 users simultaneously. *Also see –**Microprocessor, Resources.***

Modem – A contraction of "modulator-demodulator," it is a device that converts digital and analog signals. At the source, a modem converts digital signals to a

form suitable for transmission over analog communication facilities. At the destination, the analog signals are returned to their digital form. Modems allow data to be transmitted over voice-grade telephone lines.

Motherboard - The main circuit board in a computer. This board connects all of the hardware in the computer together. *Also see **Circuit Board, Hardware.***

Mouse - A device used to control the movement of a pointer in a GUI. *Also see **GUI.***

MSAU - Multistation Access Unit is a wiring Concentrator to which all end stations in a Token Ring network connect. The MSAU provides an interface between these devices and the Token Ring interface of a router; sometimes abbreviated as MAU.

Multi-point - Software in which more than two participants can communicate simultaneously. *Also see **Software.***

Multiprocessing - Allows a computer to have two or more CPUs that programs share. *Also see **CPU.***

Multi-tasking - A computer's capability to run multiple applications at the same time.

Multi-threading - The capability for a program to be broken into smaller parts that can be loaded as needed by the operating system. Multi-threading allows individual programs to be multi-tasked. See also: *Also see **Operating System, Multi-tasking.***

Multi-user - Two or more users running programs and sharing peripheral devices, such as a printer, at the same time. *Also see –**Peripheral, Program.***

NAP - Network Access Point is a location at which access providers are interconnected. The NSF developed and funded the four original NAPs in the United States. *Also see **NSF.***

Name Resolution - Generally, the process of associating a name with a network location.

NAUN - Network Active Upstream Neighbor, in Token Ring or IEEE 802.5 networks, is the closest upstream network device from any given device that is still active.

Network - Two or more computer systems connected together in order to share resources. See also: *Also see **Resources.***

Nibble - A nibble is half a byte or four bits.

NIC - Network Interface Card is a card that typically goes into a PCI or PCMCIA (PC card) slot in a computer and connects to the network medium, which in turn is connected to other computers on the network. *Also see **Expansion Slot, PCI, PCMCIA.***

NNTP - Network News Protocol is the protocol used to post, distribute and retrieve USENET messages. *Also see –**Protocol, USENET.***

Node - Endpoint of a network connection or a junction common to two or more lines in a network. Nodes can be processors, controllers or workstations. *Also see **Host.***

NOS - Network Operating System is the operating system software used on a server. The term sometimes refers to the networking components of a client operating system *Also see **Operating System, Network, Client/Server, Client Operating System, Server, Client.***

NSF - National Science Foundation is an independent U.S. government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering through research and education projects in science and engineering.

NTSF - New Technology File System is a type of file system that provides improved fault tolerance over traditional file systems, and also provides file-level security. *Also see –***File, File Management System.**

Number Systems - Sets of values used to represent quantity. *Also see ***Binary, Decimal, Hexadecimal.**

Object-Oriented - The association of an element or action with an object.

Operating System - The program that performs all of the system tasks and provides an environment in which other programs can be run. *Also see ***Program, NOS.**

OSI - Open System Interconnection model is an ISO standard that defines a networking structure for implementing protocols in seven layers to transfer data. *Also see ***ISO, Network, Protocol**.

Packet - One piece of data along with a destination address used in a packet switching network. *Also see ***Network.**

Packet Switching - Refers to protocols where messages are divided into packets before they are sent, then transmitted individually to a destination to be recompiled into the original message. *Also see –***Protocol, Packet.**

Parallel - A type of bus that transfers multiple streams of data simultaneously. *Also see ***Bus**.

Partition - To divide memory or mass storage into isolated sections. Once a disk is partitioned, each partition will behave like a separate disk drive. *Also see ***Hard Disk Drive.**

PC - Personal Computer

PCB - Printed Circuit Board. *Also see Circuit Board.*

PCI - Peripheral Component Interconnect is a 32-bit local bus slot that allows the Bus direct access to the CPU for devices, such as memory and expansion boards, and allows the CPU to automatically configure the device using information contained on the device. *Also see Bus, Internal Bus, Expansion board, Expansion Bus, CPU.*

PCL - Printer Control Language is a PDL developed by Hewlett Packard.

PCMCIA - Personal Computer Memory Card International Association is an organization that has developed the standards for small, credit card-sized devices called PC Cards. PC Cards are designed to add memory and peripheral devices to portable computers. *Also see –Peripheral, Laptop.*

PDA - Personal Digital Assistant describes a handheld multifunction electronic device capable of combining cellular phone service, fax and personal organizer abilities together. Most PDAs use a stylus to enter data, necessitating the use of handwriting recognition technology.

PDL - Page Description Language is a language that is used to describe the layout and contents of a printed page when controlling laser printers.

Peripheral - Any device in a computer system that is not essential to the operation of the computer.

Photosensitive - Responsive to light or other radiant energy.

Physical Topology - The layout or physical shape of the network. Refers to the way the computers are arranged, so that cabling goes from one to another in a certain physical shape. *Also see Logical Topology, Topology.*

Pixel - Picture Element is the smallest part of a graphic image. Many pixels close together make up the image on the computer monitor.

Plenum - The plenum is the space between a false ceiling and the floor above, through which cabling can be run. *Also see **Cable.***
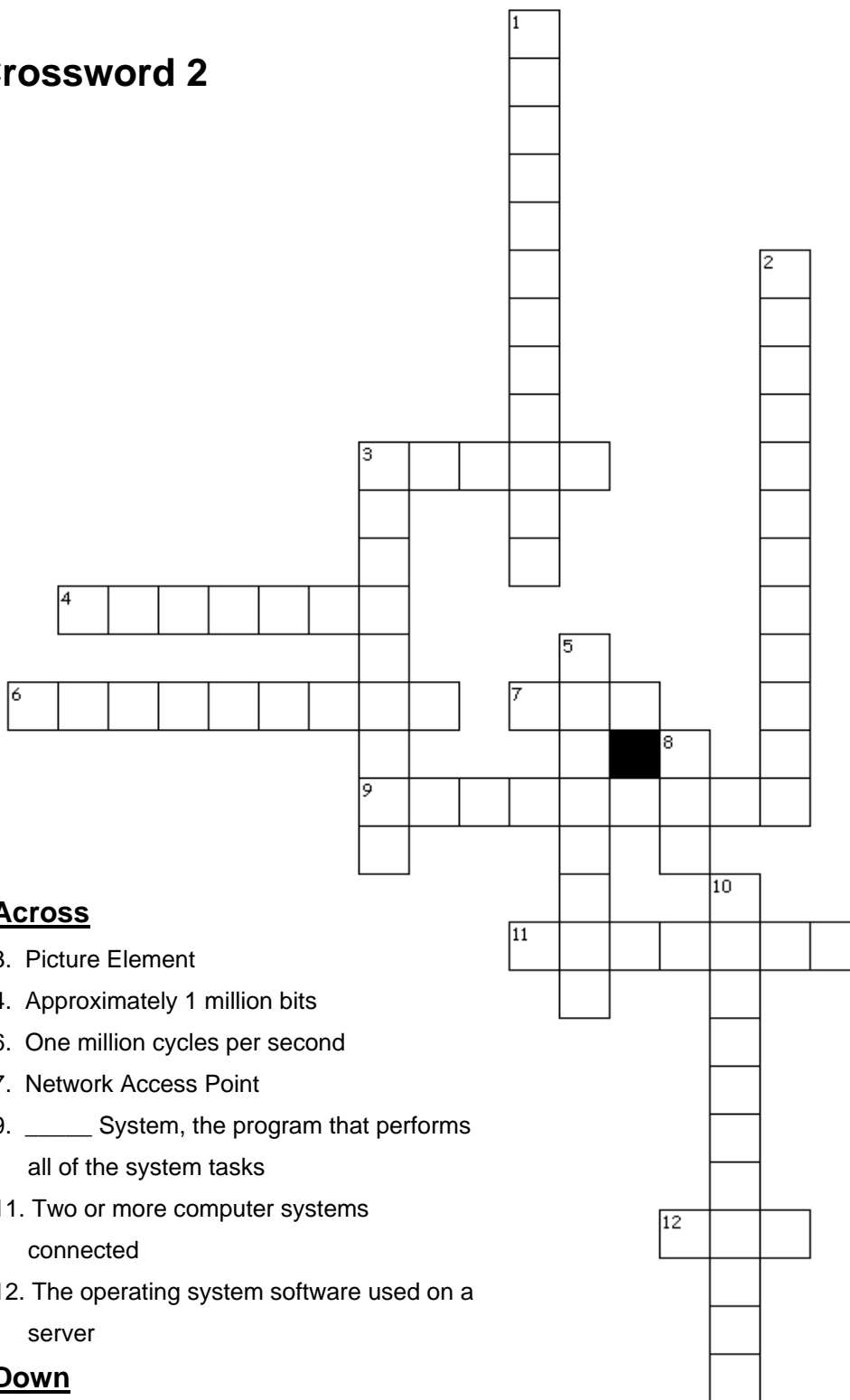
PnP - Plug and Play describes the ability of a computer to automatically configure the devices that connect to it. *Also see **PCI.***

Point-to-Point - A one-to-one connection.

POP - Post Office Protocol is a protocol used by e-mail clients on a network to retrieve e-mail from the mail server. *Also see **Protocol, E-Mail, Client, Server, Network.***

Crossword 2

Across

3. Picture Element
4. Approximately 1 million bits
6. One million cycles per second
7. Network Access Point
9. _____ System, the program that performs all of the system tasks
11. Two or more computer systems connected
12. The operating system software used on a server

Down

1. A chip that contains a CPU
2. Computer's capability to run multiple applications at the same time
3. To divide memory or mass storage into isolated sections
5. A type of bus that transfers multiple streams of data simultaneously
8. Network Interface Card
10. Main circuit board in a computer

40

Basic Information Technology Terminology – Part 6

Port - An interface on the computer where a device is connected. *Also see Peripheral, USB, Serial, Parallel.*

POST - Power-On Self Test describes diagnostic tests run by the computer when it is turned on to test hardware. *Also see **Hardware**.*

POTS - Plain Old Telephone Service

Postscript - A PDL developed by Adobe Systems. *Also see **PDL**.*

Power Supply - A PDL developed by Adobe Systems. *Also see **PDL.***

PPM - Pages Per Minute

PPP - Protocol. A protocol for connecting a computer to the Internet that provides error-checking features. *Also see **Protocol, Internet, SLIP, TCP/IP.***

Printer Driver - A program that feeds data to a printer with the correct control commands for that certain printer.

Printer Memory - A specialized type of memory that can be installed in a printer that will increase its capabilities.

Print Head - The assembly in a dot-matrix or inkjet printer that moves across the paper to create the text or image.

Print Server - A computer that manages one or more printers for computers on a network. *Also see –**Network, Server**.*

Program - An organized list of instructions that, when executed, causes the computer to behave in a predetermined manner.

Programmer - A person who writes computer programs. *Also see **Program**.*

PROM - Programmable ROM is a type of ROM that can be programmed using special equipment and can be written to only once. *Also see **ROM, EPROM, EEPROM, CMOS.***

Protocol - A set of rules by which computers communicate. A protocol is much like the syntax of a language rather than the language itself.

PSN - Packet-Switched data Network is a network that uses packet-switching technology for data transfer; sometimes called a PSDN. *Also see **Packet Switching***.

Push Technologies - Sending electronic information without the request of the receiver.

PVC - Polyvinyl Chloride is the material out of which the jacket on non-plenum-grade cable is made. It cannot be used for plenum-grade materials. PVC does not meet the safety codes for installation in the ceiling because it gives off a poisonous gas when burned. *Also see –**Cable, Plenum***.

QoS - Quality of Service is a term applied to ATM networks that allows ATM providers to guarantee their customers a specific throughput level on the network. *Also see –**Network, ATM***.

Query - Message used to inquire about the value of some variable or set of variables.

Queue - To line up tasks for a computer or device such as a printer.

RAM - Random Access Memory is computer memory that can be accessed randomly; that is, any byte of memory can be accessed without touching the preceding bytes. *Also see **SRAM, DRAM, DRDRAM, SLDRAM, SDRAM, DDR SDRAM, EDO RAM, FPM RAM, VRAM, WRAM.***

RAMDAC - Random Access Memory Digital to Analog Converter is a specialized form of memory designed to convert digitally encoded images into analog signals for display. It is made of an SRAM component (for storing the color map) and three DACs, one for each electron gun. *Also see **DAC, SRAM, Digital. Analog.***

RAS - *Also see **Remote Access Server, Remote Access Services**.*

Real Time - This term is used to describe computer functions that occur immediately.

Remote Access Server (RAS) - A server that is dedicated to handling users that need to gain access to files and print services on the LAN from a remote location. *Also see –**Server, LAN.***

Remote Access Services (RAS) - A feature built into Windows NT that enables users to log into an NT-based LAN using a modem, X.25 connection, or WAN link. *Also see **LAN, WAN, X.25***

Resources - Any hardware or software available to a computer.

RFI - Radio Frequency Interference describes radio frequencies that create noise that interferes with information being transmitted across unshielded copper cable.

RIMM - Rambus Inline Memory Module is a memory module developed by Kingston Technology to package Rambus memory that is smaller than older DIMM modules with different pin connectors. The RIMM module has a 184-pin connector for use in ATX computers, and the SO-RIMM module has a 160-pin connector for use in smaller form-factor computers. *Also see **RAM, DRAM, DRDRAM, SIMM, DIMM.***

ROM - Read Only Memory is a type of memory prerecorded on a chip that can only be read. This type of memory retains its contents without electricity. *Also see **PROM, EPROM, EEPROM, CMOS.***

Root Directory - The uppermost directory in a file system *Also see –***File, File Management System.**

RSI - Repetitive Strain Injury is an injury produced by the continuous repetition of small movements over time.

SCSI - Small Computer System Interface is a parallel interface standard that supports multiple devices on the same cable and achieves faster data transmission rates than standard buses. *Also see* **Parallel, Bus, Cable.**

SDRAM - Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory is a memory type that synchronizes itself with the CPU's bus to provide faster transfer rates than standard DRAM. *Also see* **DRAM, RAM.**

Search Engine - A type of program that seeks out and indexes documents from the World Wide Web and USENET groups based on specific criteria or "key words". An example is Google. *Also see* **World Wide Web.**

Semiconductor - A material used to make computer chips that is neither a good conductor nor a good insulator. The most common semiconductor materials are silicon and germanium. These materials then have other materials added to them to increase their conductivity. *Also see* **Chip.**

Serial - A type of bus that transmits data one bit at a time. *Also see* **Bus.**

Server - A computer or device on a network that manages network resources. *Also see –***Network, Resource**.

Shareware - Copyrighted software that is delivered free of charge, although the author asks a fee from the user if the software is helpful or used often. *Also see –* **Software, Freeware.**

SIMM - Single Inline Memory Module is a circuit board with a 32-bit data bus that holds memory chips. *Also see* **Circuit Board, DIMM, RIMM, Bus, Chip.**

SLDRAM - Synchronous-Link DRAM is a type of DRAM memory that has a 64-bit bus running at a 200 MHz clock speed where transfers are made twice on each clock cycle, for an effective speed of 400 MHz. *Also see **DRAM, RAM, DRDRAM.***

SLIP - Serial Line Internet Protocol is a protocol to connect computers to the Internet. *Also see **PPP, TCP/IP.***

Slot - *Also see **Expansion Slot**.*

SMIP - Simple Mail Transfer Protocol is an e-mail protocol used by servers to send messages between themselves. SMTP is also used by an e-mail client to retrieve messages from an e-mail server. *Also see **E-Mail, Protocol, Server, Client.***

SNA - System Network Architecture describes the large, complex, feature-rich network architecture developed in the 1970s by IBM. It is similar in some respects to the OSI reference model, but with a number of differences. SNA essentially is composed of seven layers.

SNMP - Simple Network Management Protocol is a set of protocols that monitors complex networks by sending messages, called protocol data units, to different parts of the network. SNMP compliant devices then send information about themselves to SNMP requestors. *Also see –**Protocol, Network.***

Software - Any type of data or instructions that can be stored electronically.

Software Engineer - A licensed professional engineer who creates the designs for computer programmers to use when creating programs. *Also see **Programmer, Program.***

SPAM - Unsolicited e-mail.

Spreadsheet - Software for arranging values with a defined relationship with each other. *Also see* **Software**.

SRAM - Static RAM is a type of RAM that holds its data without being refreshed, for as long as power is supplied to the circuit. *Also see* **RAM.**

Standard - An accepted format approved by a recognized organization to define certain aspects of an industry.

Stepper Motor - A type of motor that can be moved in very small, very precise increments.

STP - Shielded Twisted Pair is a type of twisted pair wiring that is shielded against electromagnetic interference. *Also see* **Twisted Pair, UTP.**

Streaming Media - A technique for transferring data so it can be processed in a continuous stream in order to display it before the entire file has been transferred.

SVGA - Super Video Graphics Array is a graphics standard giving higher resolution than VGA, and supporting a 16 million color palette.

Synchronous - In terms of data transmission, synchronous means there is a clock or timing source to keep both the sender and the receiver synchronized.

Taskbar - A program within Microsoft Windows that graphically represents open applications, computer contents and other information, and provides a way to quickly access these resources.

TCP/IP - Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol is the suite of communications protocols used to connect hosts on the Internet. *Also see* **Protocol, Host, Internet.**

Telecommunications - All type of data transmission.

Token Ring - A type of computer network in which all the computers are arranged in a physical or logical circle. A special bit pattern, known as a token, travels around the circle. When a computer in the network wishes to send a message, it catches the token, attaches a message to it and it continues to travel around the network. *Also see **Network.***

Toner - A dry, powdery substance that is electrically charged, so that it adheres to a drum, plate, or piece of paper in a laser printer or photocopier charged with the opposite polarity.

Topology - The shape of a communication system such as a LAN. *Also see **Logical Topology, Physical Topology, LAN.***

Twisted-pair - A type of cabling used for data and voice communications that consists of pairs of copper wires twisted inside an outer jacket. *Also see **Cable, UTP, STP.***

UART - Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter is an integrated circuit that is attached to the parallel bus of a computer and used for serial communications. The UART translates between serial and parallel signals, provides transmission clocking and buffers data sent to or from the computer.

UNIX - UNIpleXed Information and Computing System is a multi-user, multi-tasking operating system designed to be used exclusively by programmers. *Also see **Operating System, Programmer.***

URL - Uniform Resource Locator is the global addressing system for the World Wide Web. The first part of the address indicates what protocol to use, and the second part specifies the IP address where the resource is located. *Also see **World Wide Web, Protocol, IP Address.*** , **Upstream** - Set of frequencies used to send data from a subscriber to the headend.

USB - Universal Serial Bus is an external bus standard that can connect up to 127 USB devices at transfer rates of up to 180 Mbps. *Also see **Bus, Serial, Mb.***

USENET - A worldwide bulletin board system that can be accessed through the Internet. *Also see **BBS, Internet**.*

UTP - Unshielded Twisted Pair is the most commonly used cabling in modern Ethernet networks. UTP comes in different category ratings, depending on whether it is considered voice or data grade and the transmission speed it supports. *Also see **Twisted Pair, STP, Ethernet, Network**.*

VBNS - Very high speed Backbone Network Service is an experimental WAN backbone produced by MCI and sponsored by the NSF, serving as a platform for new high-speed Internet technologies. *Also see **WAN, Backbone, NSF, Network, Internet.***

Vector-Based - A type of printer font that is a graphics image represented by complicated outline-oriented images. *Also see **Font.***

VGA - Video Graphics Array is a standard graphics display system for computers that uses an analog signal instead of a digital signal. *Also see **XGA, Analog, Digital.***

Virtual - Something that is conceptual rather than something that is physical.

Virus - A program that is loaded onto a computer without the knowledge of the user and runs unknowingly and typically maliciously. *Also see **Program.***

VOIP - Voice Over IP is the ability to make telephone calls and send faxes over IP-based data networks while maintaining a suitable QoS. *Also see **IP, Network, QoS.***

VPN - Virtual Private Network uses the Internet as a conduit, through which a secure connection can be established between a remote client and a private

LAN, without incurring long distance charges that might result from dialing in to the LAN's server directly. *Also see* **Internet, Client, Server, Host, LAN.**

VRAM - Video RAM is a type of memory used by video adapters and can be accessed by two different devices at the same time. *Also see* –**RAM, WRAM.**

VRML - Virtual Realty Modeling Language describes a specification for presenting three-dimensional images within Web sites. *Also see* **World Wide Web, Web Page, Web Site.**

WAN - Wide Area Network is a network made up of interconnected LANs that span wide geographic areas by using WAN links, such as telephone lines or satellite technology, to connect computers in different cities, countries or even different continents. *Also see* **Network, LAN, MAN.**

Warm Boot - Restarting a computer that is already turned on without first turning it off. *Also see* –**Boot, Cold Boot.**

Web Browser - Software that is used to display web pages and present audio and video to the user. *Also see* **World Wide Web, Web Page, Web Site.**

Web Page - A document written in a language of the World Wide Web. *Also see* **World Wide Web, Web Site, HTML, VRML.**

Web Portal - A Web site that offers a very broad range of resources from e-mail and Internet service to online shopping. *Also see* **World Wide Web, Web Site, E-Mail, Internet, ISP.**

Web Server - A computer that delivers Web pages to computer users on the Internet. *Also see* **World Wide Web, Web Page, Web Site, Internet, Server.**

Web Site - A location on the World Wide Web that contains a home page, which is the first document users see when they enter the site. The site might also

contain additional documents and files. *Also see **World Wide Web, Web Page, Internet.***

Windows - A series of GUI operating systems used on IBM compatible personal computers. *Also see **GUI, Operating System.***

Wireless - The ability of an electronic device to communicate with another device using the atmosphere as its media. *Also see **Media.***

Wireless Media - Media that carries signals from one computer to another without a permanent tangible physical connection.

Word Processor - Software used to perform word processing functions such as writing and editing documents. *Also see **Software.***

World Wide Web (WWW) - A collection of Internet servers that support documents created in a specific format, such as HTML, to be displayed with a Web browser. *Also see **Internet, Server, HTML, VRML, Web Browser.***

WRAM - Windows RAM is a special type of VRAM that provides even better performance than standard VRAM by supporting two ports for memory exchange. *Also see **VRML, RAM**.*

WYSINYG - What You See Is What You Get.

X.25 - A standard for packet switching networks. *Also see **Network, Packet Switching.***

XGA - Extended Graphics Array is a graphics standard designed to provide more colors than the older 8514/A standard and allows monitors to be non-interlaced. *Also see **VGA.***

ZIF - Zero Insertion Force is a special type of chip socket that permits the insertion and removal of the chip without any tools and without using any force. *Also see **Chip, Microprocessor**.*

Zone - Collection of all terminals, gateways, and multipoint control units (MCUs) managed by a single gatekeeper. A zone includes at least one terminal and can include gateways or MCUs. A zone has only one gatekeeper. A zone can be independent of LAN topology and can be comprised of multiple LAN segments connected using routers or other devices.

True or False

Directions: First study the Basic Information Technology Terminology sections, then circle "T" for "True" and "F" for "False."

1. Acronyms are commonly used in the field of Information

    Technology.   T   F

2. USB stands for Ultimate Service Bus.   T   F

3. A Search Engine is a type of program that seeks out and indexes

    documents from the World Wide Web.   T   F

4. Software used to perform word processing functions, such as writing and

    editing documents, are called editing processors.   T   F

5. A location on the World Wide Web that contains a home page is called a

    URL.   T   F

6. VGA stands for Video Graphics Array.   T   F

7. The global addressing system for the World Wide Web is an http. T   F

8. POST are diagnostic tests run by the computer when it is turned on

    to test hardware.   T   F

9. A set of rules by which computers communicate is protocol.   T   F

10. Individuals who work in the field of Information Technology often

    suffer from repetitive strain injuries (RSI).   T   F

More Activities

www.discoverit.org has many different activities to test your IT knowledge.

Answer Key

Crossword 1 (page 12)

Across - 1. Chip 3. Application 4. Channel 7. Analog 8. Backbone 11. Byte

Down - 1. Client 2. Boolean 4. Cable 5. Algorithm 6. Baud 8. Bit 9. Cache 10. Boot 11. Bus

Acronyms: Fill in the Blank 1 (page 19)

1. COM - Common equipment

2. CPU - Central Processing Unit

3. CRT - Cathode Ray Tube

4. CSMA/CD - Carrier Sense Multiple Access Collision Detect

5. DAC - Digital to Analog Converter

6. DARPA - Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

7. DDR SDRAM - Double Data Rate SDRAM

8. DHCP - Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol

9. DMA - Direct Memory Access

10. DNS - Domain Name System

11. DNS - Domain Name System

12. DOS - Disk Operating System

13. DPI - Dots Per Inch

14. DRAM - Dynamic Random Access Memory

15. DRDRAM - Direct Rambus DRAM

16. DVD-ROM - Digital Versatile Disk Read Only Memory

17. EDO DRAM - Extended Data Output DRAM

18. EEPROM - Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory

Matching (page 26)

1.H 2.E 3.G 4.C 5.A 6.J 7.L 8.B 9.I 10.D 11.K 12.F

Acronyms: Fill in the Blank 2 (page 32)

1. ICMP - Internet Control Message Protocol

2. IDE - Integrated Drive Electronics

3. IETF - Internet Engineering Task Force

4. IMAP - Internet Message Access Protocol

5. MTC - International Multimedia Teleconferencing Consortium

6. I/O - Input / Output

7. IRC - Internet Relay Chat

8. IRQ - Interrupt Request Line

9. ISA - Industry Standard Architecture

10. ISDN - Integrated Services Digital Network

11. ISO - International Organization for Standardization

12. ISP - Internet Service Provider

13. IT - Information Technology

14. ITU - International Telecommunications Union

15. LAN - Local Area Network

16. LED - Light Emitting Diode

17. LPT - Line Printer Terminal

18. MAE - Metropolitan Area Exchanges

Crossword 2 (page 40)

Across: 3. Pixel 4. Megabit 6. Megahertz 7. NAP 9. Operating 11. Network 12.NOS
Down: 1. Microprocess 2. Multi-tasking 3. Partition 5. Parallel 8. NIC

10. Motherboard

True or False (page 52)

1. T	6. T
2. F	7. F
3. T	8. T
4. F	9. T
5. F	10. T

Updated: April 2008