

EDU 610 Educational Technology

Computer Terminology

1. What is an operating system and why is it important to a computer? What are some operating systems currently in use today?

The operating system is the software that communicates with the computer. It allocates memory, processes tasks, accesses disks and peripherals and serves as a user interface. Examples of operating systems are Windows, Mac, and Linux programs.

2. What is a MAC computer? How does it differ from a PC?

A MAC computer is a series of several lines of personal computers designed, developed and marketed by Apple Inc. It allows users to interact with the operating system by using a mouse to click and drag objects.

3. How much memory and hard drive space came with the first Apple computer?

Which was released on April 1, 1996 and incorporated on Jan.3, 1977?

The Apple II computer had 1 MHz microprocessor and 4KB of RAM expandable to 48 KB

4. When was the first IBM PC introduced?

On August 12, 1981, the first IBM PC was introduced in response to the Apple computer success.

5. Explain the difference between information literacy and computer literacy.

Information literacy - is the ability to identify needed information through research techniques.

Computer literacy is to have basic computer skills.

6. Identify the meaning of the following terms and give examples where appropriate:

- **AUP** – (acceptable use policy) are rules applied by the owner/network that restrict the ways in which the network site can be used.
- **Blog** – a website maintained by an individual with regular entries like a personal diary.
- **Broadband** – A high data rate internet access
- **Browser** – A program used to browse the web, an example is Microsoft Internet Explorer)
- **Cloud Computing** – are applications and services offered over the internet.
- **Cookie** – they allow users to be tracked when they visit certain sites.
- **COW** –
- **Driver** – a piece of software that works with OS (operating system) to control a particular piece of hardware (printer, scanners, or mouse).
- **Firewall** – a fast type of serial port, it is similar to a USB but is faster and more expensive.
- **PNG** – photographic network graphic
- **JPEG** – is a compressed image file format
- **GIF** - are based on indexed colors of a least 256 colors, it helps reduce the size of a file.

- **Hardware vs. software** – hardware is the physical parts of a computer and software consist of the programs and applications that run on the computers.
- **HTML** – the hypertext mark-up language – language used to express web pages.
- **Interactive whiteboard** – an example is a Smart Board which provides ways that students can see information presented from a computer desktop.
- **Peripheral** – external devices that provide input and output for the computer. Examples are keyboard and mouse are input and the monitor and printer are output.
- **Plug-in** – a piece of software designed to work in cooperation with a separate application to increase that application's abilities.
- **Podcast** – are audio and video broadcast that can be played on an iPod
- **RAM vs. storage** – (random access memory – is the short term memory of a computer; information can be lost if the computer is turned off. The hard drive stores the computer information.
- **RSS – (rich site summary)** - can provide brief summaries of articles that appear in full on a website.
- **Second life and avatar** – is a virtual world developed by Linden Lab in 2003, it enables its users to interact with each other through avatar also allows users to retain copyrights for anything they create.
- **Social Bookmarking** – is a method for internet users to store, organize search and manage bookmarks of web pages on the internet.
- **Social Networking** - Allows users to be a part of a virtual community. Examples are Facebook and MySpace.
- **Storage devices** – any type of hardware that stores data on the computer.
- **Streaming** – commonly used in audio and video
- **USB (universal serial bus)** – the most common type of computer port used to connect keyboards, mice, game controller, printer, scanners, and digital cameras.
- **Web 2.0** – second generation – new features and functionality that was not available in the past.
- **WIKI** – is a website that allows users to add and update content on the site.

7. Computer measurement - identify each word and how much it measures:

- **Bit** – measure of sound quality, color quality, example : 8 bit image can contain at least 256 distinct colors
- **Byte** – is a set of 8 bits that represent a single character in the computer
- **Kilobyte** – is 2 to the 10th power or 1,024 bytes
- **Megabyte** – is 2 to the 20th power or 1,048,576
- **Gigabyte** – is a unit of data storage that equals 2 to the 30th power or 1,073,741,824 bytes.
- **What come after a gigabyte?**
The gigabyte precedes the terabyte unit of measurement.