

UNIT test 1.4

#ooooohnetworks!

1) Describe the term LAN (Local Area Network) [2]

A group of computers connected together to share information that are geographically close (same building for example) together

2) Describe the term WAN (Wide Area Network) [2]

Two or more LANs connected together over a geographically remote (different cities for example). Use telecoms (cable, telephone networks etc) to connect

3) Describe one factor that will affect the performance of a network [2]

Contention – the amount of users on the network at the same time could reduce performance speed

4) Describe the role of a Network Interface Card (NIC) in a Network [2]

Allows a device to actually connect to a network (either wireless or wired) by allocating an IP address to the device (unique network identifier)

5) Describe the similarity and differences between a Hub and a Switch [3]

Both connect devices together to form a network. They are in the centre most usually. A hub will receive data and send it to all connected devices whereas a switch knows the IP addresses of connected devices so it only sends data to the correct device.

6) Describe ONE advantage of using optic fibre cable over copper cabling [2]

Not affected by interference – fibre uses glass and light which is unaffected by electrical or magnetic interference unlike copper cables that are.

7) Describe the role of a Domain Name Server [2]

A DNS is responsible for turning a text based web address into its real IP address via a database and vice versa. Simply this means we can use easy to remember websites in a text format and leave the DNS to link that to the real address of the site via its IP.

8) Describe ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of using cloud storage [4]

AD – Limitless space – You can “buy” an infinite amount of cloud storage via online methods

DIS – Security – You are relying on a 3rd party to store securely your data/files. If they fail to do this effectively all of your data/files could become compromised.