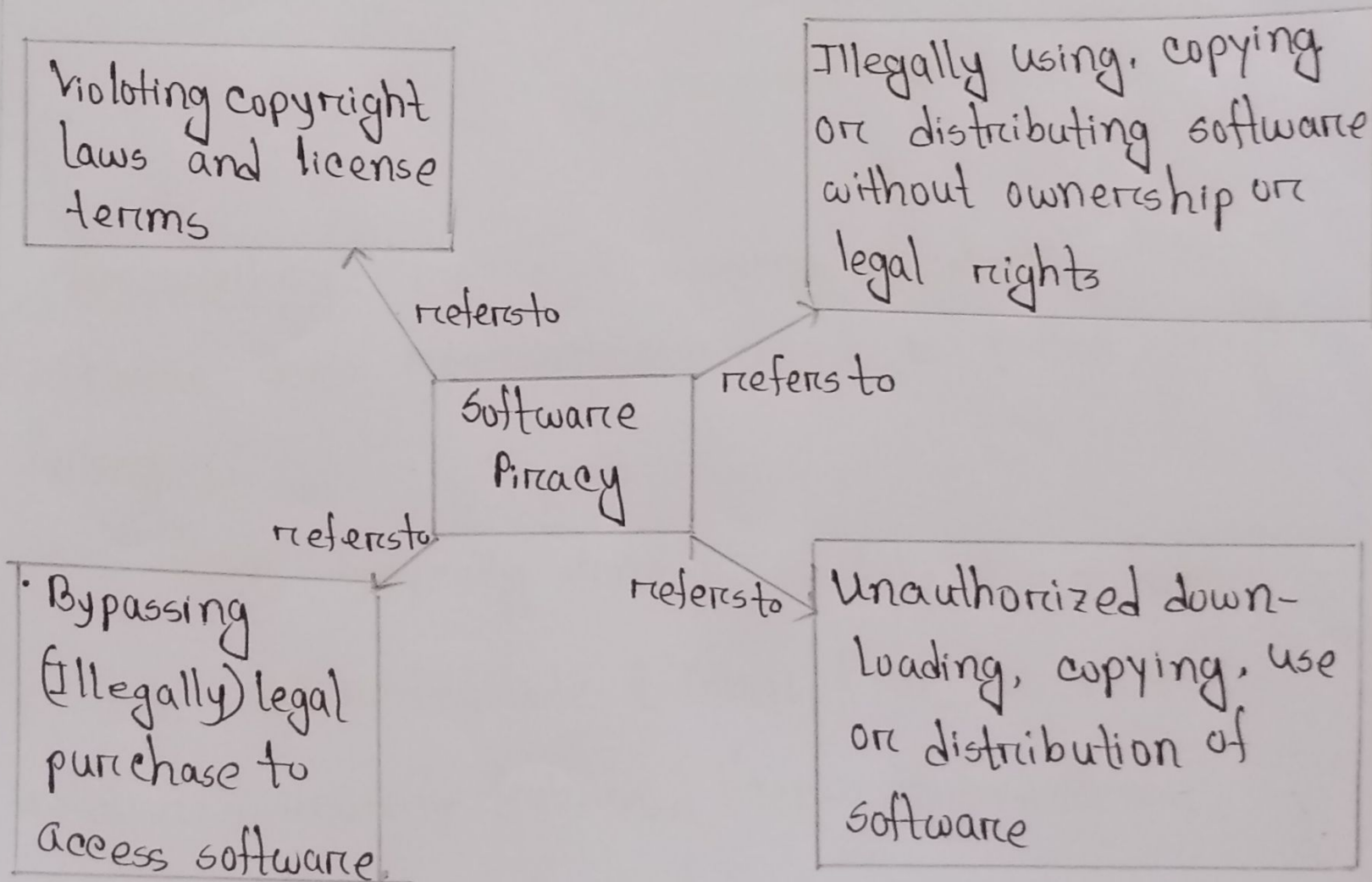


" Software Piracy "

Introduction:- Software piracy is the illegally using, copying and reselling of software without the consent of the software creator. The unauthorized copying maybe done for personal use or business use.



Types of Software Piracy:-

There are five different types of software piracy.

1. Counterfeiting
2. Internet piracy
3. Softlifting
4. Hard Disk Loading
5. Client-Server Overuse

[Source:- dataprot.net]

Counterfeiting:- The illegal copying or distribution of software that's copyright-protected is called counterfeiting.

It's typically done to imitate the original product and redistribute it. Other than the counterfeit software, security features, license agreements, labels, packaging, and registration cards can also be copied.

Internet piracy:- Internet piracy also involves copying and uploading licensed software to the internet. Users who download pirated programs also are held legally responsible for internet piracy. Even those committed to only purchasing software from official vendors can easily be tricked into piracy because websites can be made to look almost identical to the official publisher's page.

Softlifting:- Softlifting, softloading, or end-user piracy is the most widespread software piracy. It usually involves one person buying a licensed copy of the software and then sharing it with many people, who are not legally authorized to use it.

This mainly happened when the licensed user is allowed to use the program on only one device but acts as a software

pirate and shares it with many others.

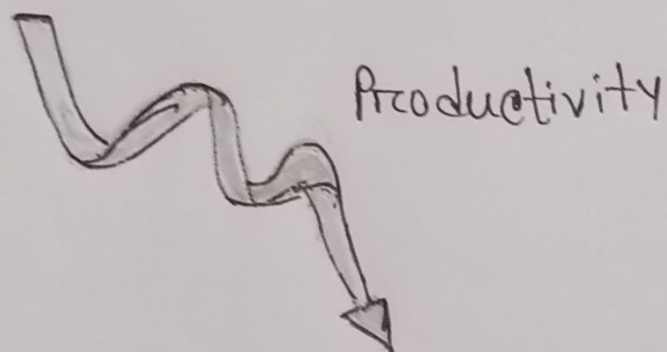
Hard Disk loading:- Hard disk loading is commercial software piracy that happens when computer sellers install unauthorized copies of the software program on their computers, so potential buyers will find them more attractive. As a result of appearing to offer better deals, these people expect customers to come back for a software upgrade or to buy other programs from them.

Client-Server Overuse:- It's that one legitimate software copy is used by more users than intended by the end-user license agreement. However, what distinguishes client-server overuse from softlifting is that the software installed on a local area network (LAN) is used on

computers within that network.

Effects on users:-

1. Lower productivity:- Pirated software often includes incomplete or damaged programs



2. Malware Infection:- Pirated software can also include computer viruses (malware) which can destroy data on a user's hard drive.

3. Subject to raid:- Companies can also be subjected to raids by the SIIA (Software & Information Industry Association).

Effects of piracy on a Business:-

1. Distribution methods

Pirated material is distributed in two ways.

* unknowing consumers buy pirated items.

* Others buy pirated items by knowing.

2. Revenue Diversion:- Piracy diverts money away from producers and distributors of items such as audio recordings, making those companies who make an investment in production and distribution less profitable.

3. Tax Revenue:- Except in the case where pirated items are sold through retail channels and taxed, tax revenue is not generated from pirated items.

Dangers of Software Piracy:-

The effects of software piracy are far-reaching and severe.

1. Security risk:- You can download an infected file or get a program that will put your device at risk.

2. Legal consequences:- If you're a business

owners, you will risk your freedom, complete financial collapse, and the loss of all your assets.

3. Productivity issues:- Business relying on unlicensed software solutions should rethink their strategy, as these programs can slow down or eventually halt their operations.

Software Piracy Prevention:-

- * Purchases only legitimate software products.
- * When buying software, it is necessary to be sure to get genuine disks, manuals and license documentation.
- * When one purchases illegal or counterfeit copies, his money goes straight into the pockets of software pirates.
- * Buy from an authorized dealer.
- * Check the prices and ask for receipts.

