

Homework 1: Computing Around Us

[10 points]

1. First, you are going to observe people around you and see what kinds of computing devices they use and for what purposes. You can observe your friends, family members, or even people on campus. Learn to notice how they are using the computing devices and why they may be using them. You need to spend time doing this; do not wait until the last minute to complete this assignment.

As discussed in class, there can be different types of computing devices. Try to look for different kinds of devices. Some may use different devices at the same time. Take notes as you observe. Use the table below to note your observations for at least 5 instances (you can list more than 5): [5 points]

Who was using it? (friend, parent, siblings, etc)	What device or devices were they using?	How were they using it?	Why do you think they were using it?	Ask them how frequently they use the device and for what purposes.
Jojo (My girlfriend)	iPad Pro	She was drawing on her iPad pro	She was bored and wanted to do something productive	To draw on it and to do schoolwork on it when she wants to pack light. Texting and calling too.
My dad	The guitar tuner	He attached it to the end of the guitar and started playing each string repeatedly while trying to get the screen to turn green	He needed the guitar to be properly tuned so that he would know if he was playing correctly.	He uses it before some practice sessions. However, it is not always used, only sometimes.
Celestine (My little sister)	iPad	She was watching YouTube and playing Roblox	She wanted to play video games instead of her toys.	She uses the iPad everyday whenever she is bored
My coworker at Starbucks	The Mastrena II Espresso machine (A coffee machine)	He would queue espresso shots by pressing one of the buttons and would catch	When you're making an espresso drink, you need to use the espresso machine to make espresso shots.	Every time we have to make a drink that requires espresso, we use this machine.

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		the espresso with a shot glass.	If it is a hot drink with steamed milk, you also use the milk steamer. The machine has multiples modes, temperature control, and is self cleaning.	
Mohamed (my colleague)	The laptop	He was typing on it. He was doing his coding homework	He needs to finish his assignments from the first week of school. I think he needed to set up his coding environment	He uses it almost every day since he's busy with school often.

2. Refer to the table above and list down the different kinds of computing devices people seemed to use. [1 point]

Most seem to use iPads, iPhones, and laptops. Other devices from the table above uses computers to assist with the task. For example, a guitar tuner has a digital screen with a digital needle to tell you how close it was to being the right note. The espresso machine also has a digital screen that even has settings to customize the espresso shots and makes it easier to maintain it.

3. Refer to the table above and mark all the purposes you noticed above. [2 points]

Communicating with others

Gathering information (e.g., news, social media updates)

Planning or scheduling an event

Tracking personal data

Storing data

Entertainment: Watching videos or listening to songs

Entertainment: Reading documents

Making money or managing finance

Learning new skills or improving existing abilities

Assisting others in a task

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Other purposes: _____

Other purposes: _____

Other purposes: _____

Notice that the same action can be for different purposes: e.g., using Instagram and commenting on a friend's post can be both “communicating with others” and also “gathering information”.

4. Think about all the ways ***you*** use computing devices. What all purposes do you use them for? How comfortable are you in using the computing devices? [2 points]

I realize that I use computing technology in almost all aspects of my life. I use it to communicate with others, to entertain myself, and to keep my life organized. I am very comfortable in using all my computing devices. Technology has come a long way to make it easy and convenient to use.