**Network:**

Interconnection of a set of devices capable of communication.

**Host:**

In a network the end devices / machines that are communicating with each other are called as Host.

**Connecting Device:**

The device that connects two or multiple hosts together are also the part of network. Connecting devices can be:

1. Router: Router connects different networks together.
2. Switch: Switch connects two hosts within a local network together.

**Network Criteria:**

A network is efficient if it meets following criteria:

1. **Performance**

Two factors decide the performance of a network:

1. Throughput: How much data can be transferred in a timeframe from point A to point B.
2. Delay: How much delay do we encounter when we send the data from point A to point B.

A network with high performance means High Throughput and Low Delay.

1. **Reliability**

Following factors decide the reliability of a network:

* 1. Accuracy of transferred data
  2. Frequency of failures when we send data from point A to point B.

1. **Security**

Security means that unauthorized users should not access that data or network resources.

**Physical Network Attributes:**

**Link:**

The link is the physical and logical network component used to interconnect hosts or nodes in the network.