

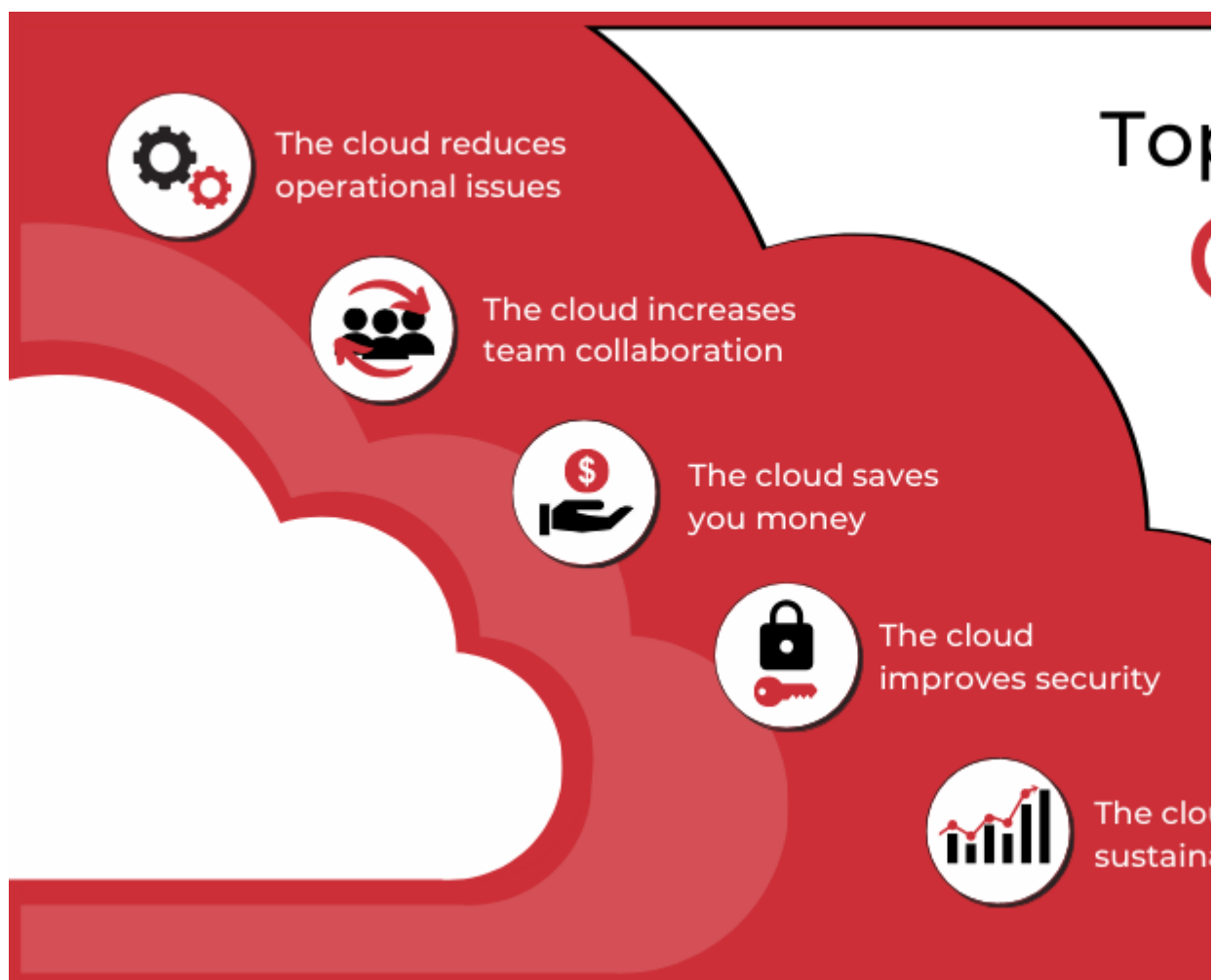
⚡ Current Skill Benefits & Disdvantages

What are the benefits of cloud computing?

The exact benefits will vary according to the type of cloud service being used but, fundamentally, using cloud services means companies not having to buy or maintain their own computing infrastructure.

No more buying servers, updating applications or operating systems, or decommissioning and disposing of hardware or software when it is out of date, as it is all taken care of by the supplier.

For commodity applications, such as email, it can make sense to switch to a cloud provider, rather than rely on in-house skills. A company that specializes in running and securing these services is likely to have better skills and more experienced staff than a small business could afford to hire, so cloud services may be able to deliver a more secure and efficient service to end users.



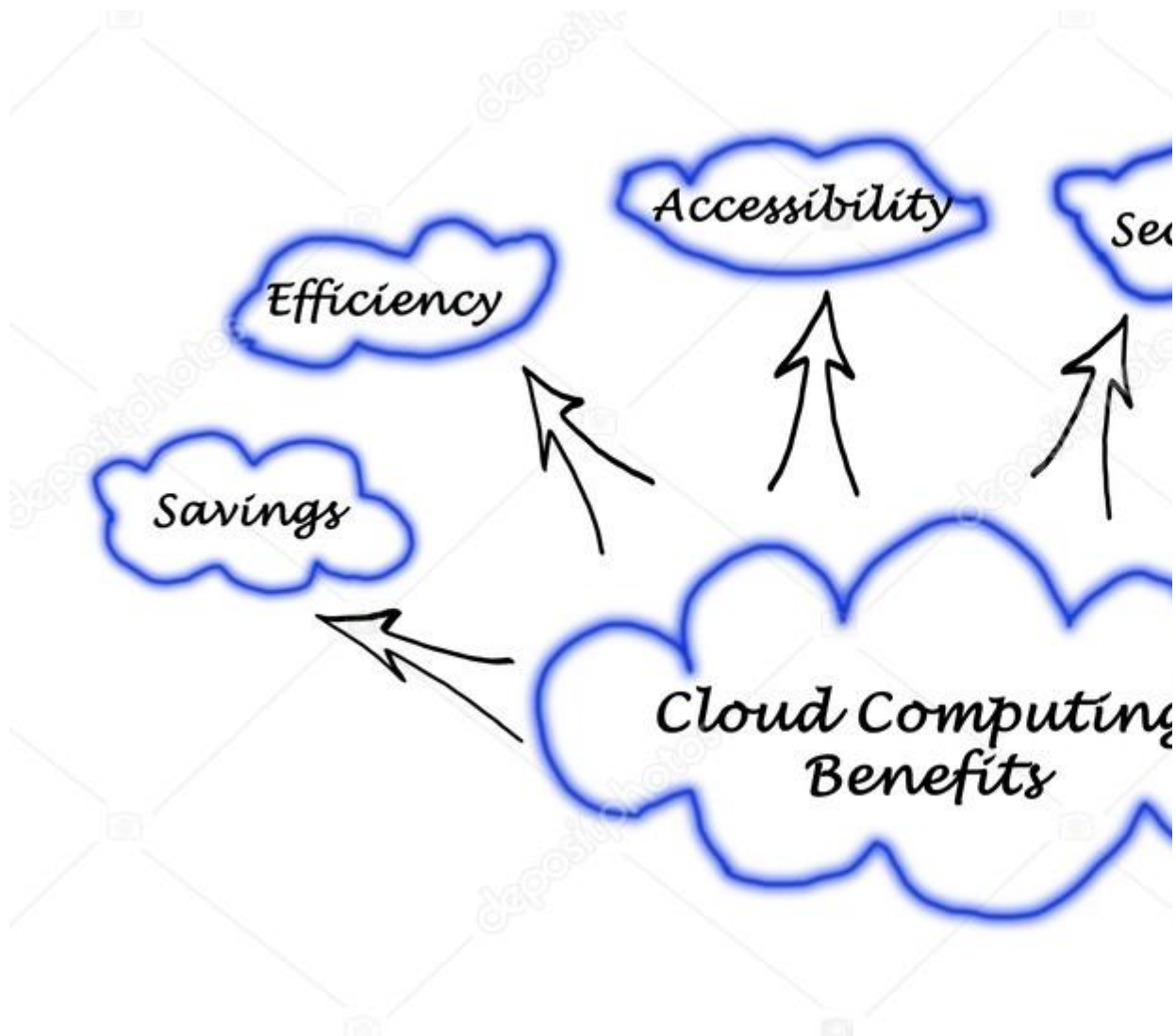
What are the benefits of cloud computing?

Using cloud services means companies can move faster on projects and test out concepts without lengthy procurement and big upfront costs, because firms only pay for the resources they consume.

This concept of business agility is often mentioned by cloud advocates as a key benefit.

The ability to spin up new services without the time and effort associated with traditional IT procurement should mean that it is easier to get going with new applications faster.

And if a new application turns out to be wildly popular, the elastic nature of the cloud means it is easier to scale it up fast.



What are the disadvantages of cloud computing?



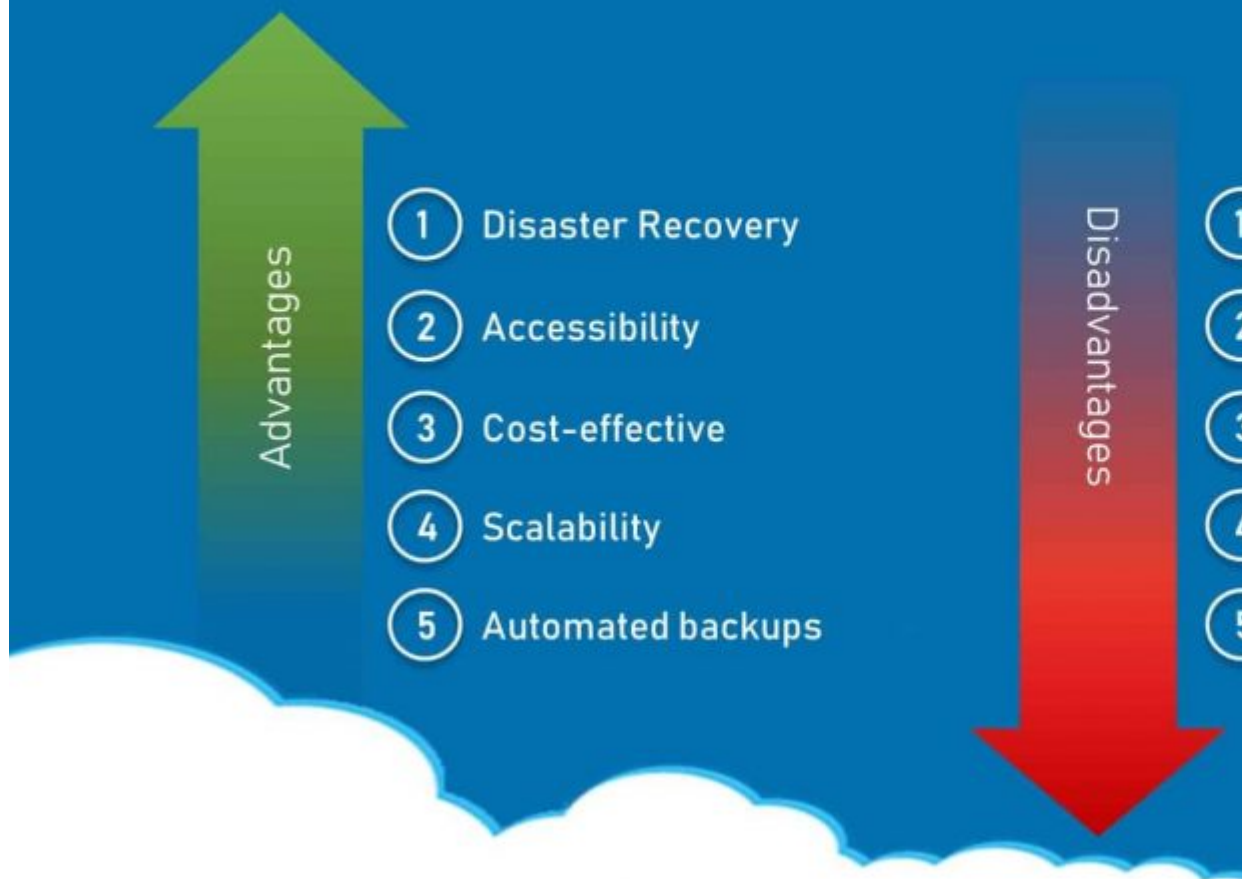
Cloud computing is not necessarily cheaper than other forms of computing, just as renting is not always cheaper than buying in the long term. If an application has a regular and predictable requirement for computing services it may be more economical to provide that service in-house.

Some companies may be reluctant to host sensitive data in a service that is also used by rivals.



Moving to a SaaS application may also mean you are using the same applications as a rival, which might make it hard to create any competitive advantage if that application is core to your business.

PROS AND CONS OF CLOUD STORAGE



What are the disadvantages of cloud computing?

While it may be easy to start using a new cloud application, migrating existing data or apps to the cloud might be much more complicated and expensive. And it seems there is now something of a **shortage in cloud skills**, with staff with DevOps and multi-cloud monitoring and management knowledge in particularly short supply.

In one report, a significant proportion of experienced cloud users **said they thought upfront migration costs** ultimately outweigh the long-term savings created by IaaS.

And of course, you can only access your applications if you have an internet connection.



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