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Weekly Report – Week 2

1. What concept was most helpful? Why?

The concept I found most helpful was the tracking of information systems through time. Mankind’s desire to communicate quickly has led to countless innovations. Beginning with the telegraph and Morse Code, mankind progressed to being able to transmit sound using Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone. Although the telephone was not popular at first, its popularity has skyrocketed since using a telephone is a quick and efficient way to transmit vocal data. The internet was invented to allow humans to transmit large amounts of digital data quickly. Computers can process data far faster than humans can. Using other forms of data transmission as examples of why we need networking with computers has been a great help to me.

2. What concept was most difficult to grasp? Why?

What was probably the most difficult concept for me to grasp was how the original telephone worked. There were many working pieces to Bell’s original telephone, and grasping what each bit was and the task it performed as quickly as the man speaking in the video covered the part was difficult for me.

3. How do you plan to apply the knowledge?

I plan to apply this knowledge by understanding better the purpose of networking. Additionally, I hope to better understand how the internet in general works in the future. This week’s lectures seemed to lay the groundwork for this knowledge. On another note, this was the first I had heard of character entities. These will be very useful when I need to place a special character in a paragraph that would normally be read by the browser as syntax characters.

4. What question do you want to ask?

One question I would like to ask is- will we be delving into how the hardware portion of computer networking works more? I am not well versed on computer hardware and I would like to remedy that soon. I am hoping this class will help with my hardware knowledge as well as my knowledge of networks.