This document is a foundational overview defining the fundamental computer science concepts of data structures and algorithms, emphasizing their relationship to efficiency.

Top 3-5 Most Important Ideas and Definitions

1. **Data Structure:**
   - **Definition:** A specific method for organizing and storing information, often in a computer's memory, so that it can be used effectively, specifically for efficient search and retrieval.
2. **Algorithm:**
   - **Definition:** A clearly specified set of simple, step-by-step instructions that must be followed sequentially to solve a particular problem or accomplish a task.
3. **Efficiency Goal:**
   - **Definition:** The core purpose of utilizing data structures is to improve the overall efficiency of algorithms by allowing for better organization, storage, search, and retrieval of information.
4. **Interdependence of Structure and Algorithm:**
   - **Definition:** Achieving efficiency requires a successful pairing; a "good data structure" cannot improve performance if it is coupled with an "improper algorithm."

Bullet Points of Other Important Facts Mentioned

- Definitions for data structure were cited from NIST (2004), Encyclopedia Brittanica (2014), and Geeks for Geeks (undated).
- Definitions for algorithm were cited from Weiss (2013) and Bhasin (2015).
- The organization of information is usually assumed to take place "in memory."
- Data structures are organized specifically so data can be "used effectively."