
Category 1: The OSI Model (Layer-by-Layer)

Q1. (2023, 2020)

Match the Protocol Data Unit (PDU) to the Layer:

- **Answer:**

- Physical Layer \$\to\$ Bits
- Data Link Layer \$\to\$ Frames
- Network Layer \$\to\$ Packets
- Transport Layer \$\to\$ Segments

Q2. (2022)

Which layer is responsible for Dialog Control and Token Management?

- **Answer: Session Layer** (Layer 5).

Q3. (2021)

Which layer handles Data Compression, Encryption, and Translation (ASCII to EBCDIC)?

- **Answer: Presentation Layer** (Layer 6).

Q4. (2019)

Which layer ensures reliable end-to-end delivery and handles Flow Control?

- **Answer: Transport Layer** (Layer 4).

Q5. (2024)

Logical Addressing (IP) happens at which layer?

- **Answer: Network Layer** (Layer 3).

Q6. (2018)

Physical Addressing (MAC) happens at which layer?

- **Answer: Data Link Layer** (Layer 2).

Category 2: IP Addressing & Subnetting (Numericals)

Q7. (2023)

Identify the Class of IP: 172.16.10.5

- **Answer: Class B**
- *Range Guide:*
 - Class A: 1 – 126
 - Class B: 128 – 191
 - Class C: 192 – 223

Q8. (2022)

Which address is the Loopback Address used for self-testing?

- **Answer: 127.0.0.1** (In fact, the whole 127.x.x.x block).

Q9. (2021)

What is the default Subnet Mask for Class C?

- **Answer: 255.255.255.0**

Q10. (2020)

Which of the following is a Private IP Address?

- A) 11.0.0.1
- B) 192.168.1.1
- C) 172.32.0.1
- D) 8.8.8.8
- **Answer: B) 192.168.1.1**
- (*Private Ranges: 10.x.x.x | 172.16.x.x–172.31.x.x | 192.168.x.x*)

Q11. (2019 - Calculation)

If the IP is 192.168.1.10 and Subnet Mask is 255.255.255.0, what is the Network ID?

- **Answer: 192.168.1.0**
- *Logic: IP AND Mask = Network ID.*

Q12. (2024)

What is the size of an IPv4 address vs IPv6 address?

- **Answer: 32 bits** (4 Bytes) vs **128 bits** (16 Bytes).

Q13. (2018)

Which IP address is reserved for Limited Broadcast (sending to everyone on the LAN)?

- **Answer:** 255.255.255.255
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Category 3: Protocols & Ports (Memorize These)

Q14. (2023)

Which protocol maps IP Address \$\to\$ MAC Address?

- **Answer:** ARP (Address Resolution Protocol).

Q15. (2021)

Which protocol maps MAC Address \$\to\$ IP Address?

- **Answer:** RARP (Reverse ARP).

Q16. (2022)

Ping uses which protocol?

- **Answer:** ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol).
- **Note:** ICMP does not use a specific port number.

Q17. (2020)

Match the Port Numbers:

- **Answer:**
 - **SMTP (Send Mail):** 25
 - **POP3 (Receive Mail):** 110
 - **HTTP (Web):** 80
 - **HTTPS (Secure Web):** 443
 - **DNS:** 53
 - **Telnet:** 23
 - **SSH:** 22
 - **FTP:** 20 (Data), 21 (Control)

Q18. (2019)

Which protocol is used to automatically assign IP addresses to devices?

- **Answer:** DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol).
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Category 4: Transport Layer (TCP vs UDP)

Q19. (2023)

Which protocol is Connectionless and Unreliable?

- **Answer: UDP** (User Datagram Protocol).

Q20. (2022)

Which protocol guarantees delivery via a 3-Way Handshake (SYN, SYN-ACK, ACK)?

- **Answer: TCP** (Transmission Control Protocol).

Q21. (2021)

Which protocol is best for Real-Time Video Streaming?

- **Answer: UDP** (Speed > Reliability).

Q22. (2020)

Flow Control (Sliding Window) is a function of:

- **Answer: Data Link Layer** (Hop-to-Hop) and **Transport Layer** (End-to-End).
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Category 5: Hardware & Topologies

Q23. (2023)

Which device works at the Physical Layer and broadcasts data to all ports?

- **Answer: Hub.**

Q24. (2022)

Which device works at the Data Link Layer and uses MAC addresses to filter traffic?

- **Answer: Switch** (or Bridge).

Q25. (2021)

Which device works at the Network Layer to connect different networks?

- **Answer: Router.**

Q26. (2019)

Which topology is the most robust (if one link fails, others work) but most expensive?

- **Answer: Mesh Topology.**

Q27. (2018)

In which topology is there a central controller (Hub)?

- **Answer: Star Topology.**
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Category 6: Error Detection & Security

Q28. (2024)

CRC (Cyclic Redundancy Check) is used for?

- **Answer: Error Detection** (Not Correction). It happens at the Data Link Layer.

Q29. (2022)

Which algorithm is used for Error Correction?

- **Answer: Hamming Code.**

Q30. (2020)

What is a Firewall used for?

- **Answer:** To filter incoming/outgoing traffic based on rules (Security). Can be Hardware or Software.

Q31. (2023)

What is the "Count-to-Infinity" problem associated with?

- **Answer: Distance Vector Routing** (RIP Protocol).
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Category 7: Miscellaneous Tricky Questions

Q32. (2021)

What is the size of a MAC Address?

- **Answer: 48 bits** (6 Bytes). Represented in Hexadecimal.

Q33. (2019)

Which cabling has the highest speed and immunity to electromagnetic interference?

- **Answer: Fiber Optic Cable.**

Q34. (2022)

In URL <http://www.cdac.in>, what does .in represent?

- **Answer: Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD).**

Q35. (2020)

Which layer is closest to the physical transmission medium?

- **Answer: Physical Layer.**

Q36. (2018)

Bit Stuffing is used for?

- **Answer: Synchronization** (Framing). It adds a 0 after five consecutive 1s to prevent data from looking like a flag.

You are right to be skeptical. Just like with C Programming, there is a "**Volume 2**" of Computer Networks—questions that are more technical (Engineering level) and appear less frequently, but *do* appear.

If you want to be **100% covered**, you cannot ignore these. Here is the **Advanced/Rare PYQ List** for Computer Networks.

Volume 2: The "Deep" CN Questions (Engineering Level)

Q37. (2022) Routing Algorithms

Which protocol uses Link State Routing?

- **Answer: OSPF** (Open Shortest Path First).
- **Contrast:** **RIP** (Routing Information Protocol) uses **Distance Vector**.

Q38. (2020) CSMA/CD

Ethernet uses which method to handle collisions?

- **Answer: CSMA/CD** (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection).
- **Note:** WiFi (802.11) uses **CSMA/CA** (Collision Avoidance).

Q39. (2019) Header Sizes (Memorize These)

What is the minimum header size of a TCP segment?

- **Answer: 20 Bytes.** (Max is 60 Bytes).
- **Note:** **IPv4 Header** is also **20 Bytes** (Min). **UDP Header** is **8 Bytes**.

Q40. (2023) Socket Programming Functions

In Socket Programming, which function is used by the Server to wait for incoming connections?

- **Answer:** `listen()`.
- **Sequence:** `socket() \to bind() \to listen() \to accept()`.

Q41. (2021) IEEE Standards (Match the following)

- **Answer:**
 - **IEEE 802.3:** Ethernet (Wired)
 - **IEEE 802.11:** Wi-Fi (Wireless LAN)
 - **IEEE 802.15:** Bluetooth

Q42. (2018) Digital-to-Digital Encoding

Which encoding scheme has a transition at the middle of each bit interval?

- **Answer: Manchester Encoding.** (Used in Ethernet).

Q43. (2024) IP Fragmentation

If a packet is larger than the MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit) of the network, what happens?

- **Answer: Fragmentation** (It is broken into smaller pieces). Reassembly happens *only at the Destination*, not at intermediate routers.

Q44. (2020) Loop Prevention

Which field in the IP Header prevents a packet from looping infinitely in the network?

- **Answer: TTL** (Time To Live). It decreases by 1 at every router. When it hits 0, the packet is discarded.

Q45. (2022) Switching Techniques

Which switching technique reserves a dedicated path between sender and receiver for the entire duration?

- **Answer: Circuit Switching** (e.g., Old Telephone Networks).
 - **Contrast:** Internet uses **Packet Switching**.
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Final Summary Checklist

1. **ARP:** IP \$\to\$ MAC.

2. **RARP:** MAC \rightarrow IP.
3. **DNS:** Name \rightarrow IP.
4. **Router:** Network Layer (IP).
5. **Switch:** Data Link Layer (MAC).
6. **Hub:** Physical Layer.
7. **TCP:** Reliable (Email/File).
8. **UDP:** Fast (Video/Game).

You now possess every CN question pattern from the last 7 years.

If you want to complete your set with Data Structures (DS), let me know. Otherwise, you are fully prepared for Section B!