# Tracking 24 Hours In Your Digital World

Learning Goal: Students will

* Be more aware and thoughtful of all the places computers, computation, and technology impacts their lives
* Begin to frame technology use as a solution to particular human needs
* Identify things they are curious about, but don’t know about some of the technologies they use daily

Select one: Weekend\_\_Selected\_\_ Weekday\_\_\_\_\_

| **Time\*** | **What was your need?\*** | **What technology/device and (if appropriate) app/program did you use to address your need?\*** | **From your perspective, describe the app or computer program you interacted with (1-2 sentences)** | **What are you most curious about?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8:55 AM | To wake me up, although I snoozed this one. | iPhone X’s alarm clock application | The application is called clock, which contains a number of useful features such as a normal clock, timer, stopwatch, and alarm clocks. | This is just like any normal clock that isn’t built into the phone, but I always wonder how this phone can keep track of its time when it’s shut down, especially if I don’t enable automatic time syncing. |
| 9:00 AM | To wake me up again, although I still snoozed this one. | iPhone X’s alarm clock application | This is the same as above, but I’ll copy and paste it down here: The application is called clock, which contains a number of useful features such as a normal clock, timer, stopwatch, and alarm clocks. | Sometimes, I set an alarm at both 8:55 AM and 9:00 AM. The alarm app, when snoozed, reschedules its alarm for 5 minutes later, but it doesn’t play both alarms. I always wondered why. |
| 9:05 AM | This one caused me to fully wake up. | This one involved the alarm clock application from both an iPhone X and iPhone 8+. | This is still the same as above, but I’ll copy and paste it down here: The application is called clock, which contains a number of useful features such as a normal clock, timer, stopwatch, and alarm clocks. | I am curious as to which alarm sound is the loudest since it always ends up taking two alarms to wake me up. |
| 9:07 AM | Brush my teeth | Electric toothbrush | This electric toothbrush is a chargeable device that can be powered to vibrate, which makes it much more effective when brushing my teeth. | I wonder how this toothbrush is able to automatically detect if it’s connected to its wireless charger and turn itself off. |
| 9:10 AM | Disinfect my toothbrush and charge my toothbrush | Toothbrush sanitizer and charger | This is another device that comes with the toothbrush. The charger does the obvious, but the sanitizer holds the replaceable tip of the toothbrush and uses UV rays to sanitize the brush. | What exactly happens that allows UV rays to disinfect stuff? |
| 9:20 AM | Open this assignment and check the example to make sure I’m doing this assignment correctly. | Google Drive on my computer | Google Drive is an online cloud storage system provided by Google that allows you to upload files and store them there so you don’t have to use up space on your computer. | How does Google have so much storage space to be able to provide free storage to millions or even billions of people who might even be using alternate accounts to get more storage space? |
| 9:25 AM | Calculate margins for flipping items in the Grand Exchange in Old School RuneScape | Ti-nspire and RuneLite | The Ti-nspire is a calculator with many built in functions that support graphing, calculus, statistics, spreadsheet software, defining variables, and much more. RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape. | I’ve taken a class on assembly, but that class only scratches the surface of what’s happening behind the scenes in this calculator. I always wondered how the developers of this calculator are able to achieve such a device that can do many things. |
| 9:27 AM - end of the day | Training skills in Old School Runescape by just leaving the game on in the background most of the time. | RuneLite | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape. | This game is extremely old. I wonder what the developers of the game, Jagex, have done to keep this game not only alive but popular up to this day. |
| 10:04 AM | I called my father to tell him what to order since he wanted to pick up food for the family. | iPhone X’s phone app | This is an application that does what any phone should have, which is a standard phone call. | I always wondered how SIM cards work and interact with cell towers and service providers. Luckily, this was very briefly touched upon on a video in the first week for this class. |
| 10:12 AM | Watching videos for entertainment | YouTube on my computer | This is an online video streaming service in which the user can browse for millions of videos shared by other people to watch. | YouTube’s database has to be rapidly growing with how many people are using their platform. What will they do to manage all of the videos that are coming in every day? Will they ever run out of storage? |
| 10:35 AM | Calculate margins for flipping items in the Grand Exchange in Old School RuneScape again. | Ti-nspire and RuneLite | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: the Ti-nspire is a calculator with many built in functions that support graphing, calculus, statistics, spreadsheet software, defining variables, and much more. RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape | Same as the entry at 9:25 AM. |
| 10:45 AM | Getting ahead as far as possible in both EDS 124AR and EDS 124BR since I now have the time to do so. This continues until the next entry at 12:30 PM. | Coursera on my computer | Coursera is an online platform that provides free courses for people, including the one I’m taking right now, which is EDS 124AR. | I’ve known about Coursera for a while, and this is one of the most credible and safe platforms out there, but I always wondered how educators are verified on this platform. |
| 12:30 PM | Took a small break from Coursera to study GRE vocabulary words. I am also creating sentences for each word and sharing it with a friend on Discord to confirm my understanding of that word. | Quizlet and Discord on my computer | Quizlet is an online platform that lets you use virtual flashcards to study terms. It also has some minigames that you can play to study. Discord is an instant messaging service and an online voice over IP service that’s specifically meant for gaming, but nowadays is used for anything in addition to that because of how versatile it is. | There’s not much that I’m curious about except for something similar above with YouTube. Surely it doesn’t take much to store information about the flash cards people make. I wonder how much storage the Quizlet database has. Discord lets you create many different communities through the use of servers and group chats. Servers also have their own chat and voice channels. How do their servers keep track of all of these things? |
| 1:00 PM | Calculate margins for flipping items in the Grand Exchange in Old School RuneScape for the third time today. | Ti-nspire and RuneLite | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: the Ti-nspire is a calculator with many built in functions that support graphing, calculus, statistics, spreadsheet software, defining variables, and much more. RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape | Same as the entry at 9:25 AM. |
| 1:02 PM | Continuing to complete as much work in EDS 124AR and EDS 124BR as possible. This continues until the next entry at 5:45 PM. | Coursera on my computer | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste this here: Coursera is an online platform that provides free courses for people, including the one I’m taking right now, which is EDS 124AR. | Same as the entry at 10:45 AM |
| 1:10 PM | I briefly turned the temperature down in my house since it was getting extremely hot. | Nest thermostat | This is a smart thermostat that learns the temperature changes in your house. | What algorithm is used to manage temperature and optimize energy usage in our house? |
| 5:45 PM | Messaged a friend in Discord to meet me in Old School RuneScape to watch me achieve max level Fishing | Discord and RuneLite | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: Discord is an instant messaging service and an online voice over IP service that’s specifically meant for gaming, but nowadays is used for anything in addition to that because of how versatile it is. RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape. | Discord has the ability to detect and interact with RuneLite to enhance gameplay experience. I’m curious as to what Discord does to detect this game and also create overlays while I’m playing. |
| 6:00 PM | Taking a walk outside. I keep my phone in my pocket so I can check the time to see how long I’ve been walking. | There isn’t a specific application used. It’s just the clock displayed on the top of my iPhone. | The iPhone X is one of the most recent iterations of Apple’s smart phone. The clock that I’m specifically looking at gets its time from the clock application in the phone, which I described above for entry 8:55 AM. | I wonder how many different applications on my phone rely on the clock application? |
| 7:30 PM | Took a break and SSHed into a remote workstation for my research internship to create a few test cases for our team’s Bayesian Optimization algorithm. | MobaXterm | MobaXterm is a free SSH client for Windows, which is used for remote computing. | Why is the port that is used for SSHing specifically 22? How do we connect to the server that hosts our workstation? Luckily, part of this was explained in a video earlier this week. |
| 7:55 PM (20th entry) | Uploaded the test cases to the Neurips Blackbox optimization competition website | Neurip’s challenge website (Blackbox) | This isn’t necessarily an application or a device, but I decided to include it anyway because it fits for the purpose of this assignment. Blackbox is the name of the website that hosts the competition for Bayesian Optimization. Users can keep submitting different versions of their code to the website to try to optimize their score based on hidden problems on the website. | I’m very curious to see what the problems are once the competition ends as well as what could based autograder they are using to grade hundreds of submissions every day. Bayesian Optimization algorithms are incredibly intense, so they must have high computing power in order to handle these submissions. |

| 8:00 PM | Continuing to complete as much work in EDS 124AR and EDS 124BR as possible. This continues until the next entry at 12:00 PM. | Coursera on my computer | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste this here: Coursera is an online platform that provides free courses for people, including the one I’m taking right now, which is EDS 124AR. | Same as the entry at 10:45 AM |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11:00 PM | Calculate margins for flipping items in the Grand Exchange in Old School RuneScape for the fourth time today. | Ti-nspire and RuneLite | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: the Ti-nspire is a calculator with many built in functions that support graphing, calculus, statistics, spreadsheet software, defining variables, and much more. RuneLite is a third party client that I use to play the game Old School Runescape | Same as the entry at 9:25 AM. |
| 12:00 PM | Brush my teeth | Electric toothbrush | This is the same as above, so I’ll copy and paste it here: this electric toothbrush is a chargeable device that can be powered to vibrate, which makes it much more effective when brushing my teeth. | Same as the entry at 9:07 AM |