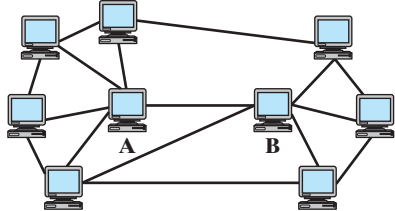In a centralized network, the failure of a single machine or connection (for example, between A and B), can isolate large portions of the network.

In a distributed network, redundant connections provide alternate routes for messages, allowing them to circumvent failed machines or connections.