

Class Activity - Design a Communications System

Objectives

Explain the role of protocols and standards organizations in facilitating interoperability in network communications.

Background / Scenario

You have just purchased a new automobile for your personal use. After driving the car for a week or so, you find that it is not working correctly. Discussing the problem with several of your peers, you decide to take it to an automotive repair facility that they highly recommend. It is the only repair facility located in close proximity.

When you arrive at the repair facility, you find that all the mechanics speak another language. You are having difficulty explaining the automobile's performance problems, but the repairs really need to be done. You are not sure you can drive it back home to research other options.

You must find a way to work with the repair facility to ensure your automobile is fixed correctly.

How will you communicate with the mechanics? Design a communications model to ensure that the car is properly repaired.

Reflection Question

What steps did you identify as important to communicating your repair request? Justify your answer.

Type your answers here.

1. Describe the Problem Clearly – Use simple words, gestures, or a translation app. Show dashboard warnings or make a video of the issue.
2. Communicate with the Mechanic – Use a translator, draw diagrams, or point to the faulty part.
3. Confirm Understanding – Have the mechanic explain back the issue and the fix, using visuals or a translated response.
4. Verify the Repair – Check the car after the fix, test it, and confirm the issue is resolved.

Why These Steps?

- Keeps it simple and avoids confusion.
- Ensures both sides understand each other.
- Prevents wrong repairs and wasted time.
- Guarantees the car works before leaving.