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Course: Computer Basics

Essay 1 – Defining Terms

1. Computer:
   1. A computer in a machine that helps people complete tasks and make computation at high rate of speed. This machine runs off electricity and operates digitally. Many things today have computers built into them or are themselves computers. For example many new cars have computer systems to monitor your oil level, tire pressure, and even help you connect to your smartphone (another form of computer) wirelessly.
2. Computer Language:
   1. Computer Languages are a way for a user to communicate with a computer. A computer language is made up of words, digits, and symbols. Those characters are interpreted by a computer and the computer completes a task based on what those character tell it.
3. Computer Science:
   1. Computer Science is the scientific and mathematical study of how computers work. Many IT professionals first study computer science in school; although many professionals in different fields could benefit from basic computer science concepts.
4. Information Technology:
   1. Information Technology is the study of machines that read, store, and send information. This field is dominated by the study of computers. An example of something in this field would be troubleshooting a computer’s external devices to find a problem that is hurting the computer.
5. Internet:
   1. The internet is a giant connected web of millions of computers sharing information with one another. The internet allows people from around the world to network and share information at lighting speed. The internet benefits people every day and is one the greatest contributions to humanity of this generation.
6. Operating System:
   1. Operating systems and a set of instructions that allows users the ability to interface with their computer. The operating system, or OS, is a software package that is traditionally already installed on most new computers. This software lets users run executable tasks on a computer with just the click of a button. Without an operating system the computer with basic be an expensive paperweight.
7. Program:
   1. A program is a specific set of instructions that tell the computer to carry out a specific task. Programs are written in computer language because they need to be able to easily communicate with computer. Those that write the programs are computer programmers.