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Computer Basics Course

Essay 11 – Defining Terms

1. API
   * An API or application programming interface is a part of a computer program that allows other programs to communicate with it by setting certain rules for communication. APIs can be used to manage parts of a business that the owner might not want to bother with such as credit card payments.
2. Blog
   * A blog is an online discussion about a certain topic. Blogging makes finding and writing news about a specific subject easy and accessible to everyone with an internet connection.
3. Interface
   * An interface is any connection between two things. Graphical interfaces are used by computers to connect with the user allowing them to interact with the features of an application.
4. Online Discussion Forum
   * An online discussion forum is a webpage that starts with a question or a statement that is then discussed among many users. Forums have many different topics or threads.
5. Podcast
   * A Podcast is portable on demand audio files that are stored and listened to by people to learn about their favorite subjects or news.
6. System
   * A system is the entirety of a computer setup such as the tower with all the hardware the monitor, keyboard, and any other external devices that might be connected to the computer.
7. Thread
   * A thread is a new topic of a forum. One would start a thread by asking a question or making an observation.
8. Trolling
   * Trolling is when someone enters a chatroom, blog or forum with the sole intension of saying mean or disparaging comments. A troll (someone who is trolling) is mostly likely trying to start an argument or get a rise out of those in the chatroom, blog or forum.
9. Wiki
   * A wiki is a website that can be edited by many people of the public and is a great way to organize ideas or information.
10. Wikipedia
    * Wikipedia is one of the most popular websites on the internet and is a giant encyclopedia that can be edited by volunteers based on a set of guidelines. The information someone post must be sited by a reputable source such as a history book or newspaper.
11. XML
    * XML or Extensible Markup Language is a programming language used to modify or edit data about data. XML can be customized to fit the needs of the program that is extending it.