**PURITY NDUMI MUSYIMI**

**REGISTATION NUMBER: SCII/04391P/2016**

**TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KENYA**

**Due Date: 1stMARCH 2018**

**Using diagrams, describe how a LAN Switch can be used to connect four(4) 40 Marks**

**Computers, enabling them to send messages amongst themselves.**

**In your description indicate**

**a) What should be enabled/disabled in the computers**

**b) The Addresses to use in the individual computers**

**c) Suggest possible messaging software to use**

If wired, connect a router WAN port to the Internet and then connect each of the 3 computers by cables to the LAN ports on the router. Make sure that the router DHCP function is enabled.  
  
If wireless, connect the router WAN port to the Internet and then make a wireless connection to each machine they will each need wireless cards for this. You need to enable the DHCP and wireless capabilities of the router.

Without a router, connect the six computers to a 8 port switch and assign static IP to each computer like 192.168.1.11 - 192.168.1.16  
  
With a router, connect a switch to the LAN port of the router via network cable and then connect the computer to either the switch or the router. If DHCP is enabled (default) on the router, the computers will receive an IP from the router.

**Messaging software**

**. Tonic:**Tonic helps you to carry out your simple chats within your office via LAN network. It is very useful program with a user-friendly interface that is easy to understood by all.

The program operates in peer-to-peer mode, and hence does not need any server. That’s why also it is very easy to operate. Here is the feature list that will give you an idea of features of the program:

* Easy to use – no server.
* Tonic automatically finds other Tonic users inside your network.
* Different user availability status.
* Image avatars
* File transfer support
* Chat history
* Announcement mode
* Quick poll + poll results.

Tonic is a complete LAN messenger and it is full of those ultimate features that you always required in your office or workplace at LAN.

**PS**: Tonic is no longer under active development and has been Archived. P**2. LAN Messenger** is another free & open source cross-platform instant messaging application for communication over a local network. It does not require a server.

Some of its features include:

* Instant Messaging
* Message History
* Personal and Group Messaging
* File Transfer

**3. Squiggle:**Squiggle is a free and open source application meant for LAN chatting. Squiggle also operates in peer-to-peer mode, and hence does not need any server. The application is rather good-looking, and offers the following features:

* Server-less peer-to-peer LAN chat
* No installation required
* Group chat
* Broadcast chat
* Private chat
* Bridging option for connecting two LANs across subnets or WAN.
* Localized i.e. translated client available in German, French, Arabic and Chinese
* File transfer
* Spell Check, Buzz, Emoticons, Audio Alerts, Tray Popups
* Contact groups, Display message, Display Pic, Chat commands, Message aliases
* Chat history, Status history

So this was all in the list of top 3 LAN Messengers for your Windows PC. If you wish to recommend other free LAN Messengers, please do so in the comments section.

**Bulk SMS Software**

Send bulk SMS directly from your PC computer or Mac.

**Simple Group Texting**

Import your mobile contacts and send group text messages.

**Mail Merge Tags**

Include personal details in your texts with mail merge tags.