1) Blockchain Technology is a _____ digital ledger that records transactions across multiple computers in a secure, transparent, and tamper-proof manner.

2) Originally developed as the _____ technology for Bitcoin, blockchain has evolved to support a wide range of applications beyond cryptocurrencies.

3) At its core, a blockchain consists of a _____ of blocks, each containing a list of transactions.

4) These blocks are _____ together using cryptographic hashes, ensuring that once data is recorded, it cannot be altered retroactively without the consensus of the network.

5) Blockchain operates on a distributed network where each participant, or node, _____ a copy of the ledger.

6) Transactions are verified through _____ mechanisms such as Proof of Work (PoW), Proof of Stake (PoS), and others, depending on the blockchain platform.

7) This decentralized and consensus-driven structure eliminates the need for _____ authorities and enhances trust among participants.

8) Blockchain has _____ implications across various industries.

9) In finance, it enables faster and more secure cross-border payments, transparent _____, and decentralized finance (DeFi) applications.

10) Supply chain management benefits from blockchain's traceability and real-time tracking, enhancing transparency and _____ fraud.

11) In healthcare, blockchain is used to _____ manage patient records and ensure data integrity.

12) Governments are exploring blockchain for voting systems, land registry, and _____ identity verification.

13) Smart contracts, which are self-executing agreements with predefined rules, automate transactions and _____ in areas like insurance and legal services.

14) Public blockchains like Ethereum and Bitcoin are open and _____ to anyone, while private and consortium blockchains are restricted to selected participants.

15) Blockchain technology also intersects with emerging areas such as the Internet of Things (IoT), AI, and NFTs (non-fungible tokens), _____ its utility across digital ecosystems.

16) Despite scalability and energy concerns, blockchain continues to gain momentum, promising a more _____, transparent, and decentralized digital future.