Task 1 Understanding Cloud Computing

One of our clients, a large Australian university, is planning its IT portfolio spend over the next 5 years. The University currently runs 350 applications to maintain its services to students, researchers and staff. They are considering a wide variety of solutions and platforms to meet their needs with their innovation team raising Cloud as a potential option.

The client has set up an initial meeting with Deloitte and has invited key stakeholders from both IT and the business. The objective of the meeting is to gain a deeper understanding of Cloud and assess if this aligns with their vision and technology portfolio.

Defining Cloud Computing

Cloud computing is the delivery of computing services—including servers, storage, databases, networking, software, analytics, and intelligence—over the Internet to offer faster innovation, flexible resources, and economies of scale.

Cloud Computing makes us approach the business for the core needs and processes. It reduces or eliminate the purchase and maintenance of hardware, thus taking away a huge burden of infrastructure management.

This makes the businesses only pay for what they want. The service is easily managed and removes many problems and issues.

Cloud Capabilities

Cloud gives a lot of capabilities to the organisations.

1. Test and build applications using cloud resources which can easily be scaled up or down.
2. Analyse data from all sources, teams and subdivisions in the organisation. Then use data analytics and machine learning to arrive at conclusions from data.
3. Deliver software on demand to the customers. Deploying on the cloud makes it easy to offer the latest software versions and updates around to customers—anytime they need, anywhere they are.
4. Using remote desktop services to replace specialised computer labs with specialised software (e.g. graphical and video processing software).
5. Non necessity of existing data servers or storage drives, thus reducing huge costs.
6. Create cloud-native applications using Cloud Features.

Cloud Characteristics

There are various types of cloud models available for usage. There is Public, Hybrid or Private Cloud based.

Some of the main characteristics of cloud computing are as follows-

1. Resources Pooling
2. Large Network Access
3. Automatic System
4. Elasticity of scaling
5. Highly secure
6. Pay as we go model
7. Measured Service

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