Homework – 1
(10 points)

Name: Patrick Woodrum
Clemson ID: C79975506

Submission: Save this Word document with your answers as a PDF file and upload the PDF file to Canvas.

1. What is information technology and why is it important to society?

Information technology is the combination of hardware, software, and services that people use to manage, communicate, and share information. The economy and IT are feeding off each other currently. IT is important to society because it can both boost a company's efficiency in slow times and in fast times companies will need to stay up to date. Our society revolves around IT.

2. What are the five main components of an information system?

The five main components of an information system are hardware, software, data, processes, and people.

3. Explain how ridesharing services such as Uber and Lyft are disrupting traditional taxicab business models.

Ridesharing services are catering to the new technology in the world. With them, you can pay for your ride on your mobile device, you know the set amount to pay for any certain ride, and you get a guarantee that your driver is credible and safe and that you will not be held accountable. All of these aspects fix the issues people have with the traditional taxicab service.

4. Describe the business profile of a home improvement store like Home Depot or Lowe's and how it is used.

The business profile for Lowe's is simple: a hardware and home improvement store that provides products for maintenance, repairing, remodeling, fixing, and decorating your home or yard. When someone needs one of these products, they can almost always find what they need in a home improvement store like Lowe's because their business profile explains exactly what type of item is sold there.

5. What are the seven types of information systems used in business?

The seven types of information systems used in business are enterprise computing systems, transaction processing systems, business support systems, knowledge management systems, user productivity systems, decision support systems, and expert systems.

6. What types of information do the four organizational levels common to many businesses need?

The four organizational levels in businesses need information concerning IT, Human Resources, Accounting, Sales, Marketing, and Production.

7. Compare three system development methods.

The three systems development methods I choose are Structured Analysis, Object-Oriented Analysis, and Agile. Structured analysis can focus heavily on written documentation like DFD's and requirements are needed early in the process. Object-Oriented Analysis utilizes object-oriented languages which are reusable and easy to maintain but can be complex. Agile is more similar to a communication method which can be very flexible and provide frequent deliverables.

8. Name the tools that enable the systems analyst to develop, manage, and maintain large-scale information systems.

Systems analysts use computer-aided systems engineering (CASE) tools to develop, manage, and maintain large-scale information systems. They also use modeling and prototyping tools. A systems analyst may make use of IDE's such as Visual Studio or Oracle Designer.

9. Summarize the seven main functions of the IT department.

The seven main functions of IT are: Application Support, Systems Support and Security, User Support, Database Administration, Network Administration, Web Support, and Quality Assurance. App Support provides leadership and guidance, Systems Support provides protection and maintenance, User Support provides the users with technical info and training, Database Admin provides data design and backup, Network Admin provides the hardware and software maintenance for the network the company operates on, Web Support provides webpages and monitors traffic and hardware, and Quality Assurance reviews and tests everything to verify it works as it should.

10. What are the roles and responsibilities of a systems analyst in a modern business?

A systems analyst is someone who investigates and analyzes a company's IT system. They listen to both the users and the managers and are the communication bridge between what each side wants and is capable of. The analyst will seek feedback from the user and relay any important information to the development team that may be crucial in avoiding future problems or just to get ahead of the game.