**Day 3 – E-Mail Service**

1. Research the following internet protocols related to e-mail services.
   1. SMTP Protocol
   2. POP3 Protocol
   3. IMAP Protocol
   4. Web Mail
2. Use the following resource as a starting point:  
   <https://askleo.com/what_is_pop_or_pop3_or_a_pop_account_and_what_about_smtp/>
3. Complete the following Venn Diagram to summarize your research.

SMTP

SMTP is the protocol used to send mail from one computer to another.

* The name of your email provider’s server which will accept your outgoing email. It could be the same as your POP3 or IMAP server, or something different.
* The account ID you were assigned by your ISP. Most commonly it’s your email address, but it doesn’t have to be.
* Your password.

When you’re using a desktop email program like Thunderbird, it’s the protocol used when you hit “Send” to transfer your email message from your computer to that of your email provider. What most people don’t realize is that it’s also the protocol used behind the scenes to transfer your message from server to server as it makes its way to the server on which your recipient receives email.

Web Mail

All of this only applies to email programs you run on your own computer, like Microsoft Office Outlook, Thunderbird, and others.

Web-based email, such as Outlook.com, Yahoo, and the like, displays the email directly from their servers to your web browser. There’s no configuration needed other than logging in. They may use SMTP (and perhaps even IMAP or POP3) behind the scenes to get and send email, but that’s nothing you’d ever need to see, know, or worry about.

IMAP & POP3

POP3 is designed around the assumption that when you access your email, you want to download it to the computer you’re using.

* The name of your email provider’s server which holds your email. Typically, it’s something like “mail.randomisp.com”.
* The account ID you were assigned by your ISP. Most commonly it’s your email address, but it doesn’t have to be.
* Your password.
* POP3 is designed around the assumption that when you access your email, you want to download it to the computer you’re using. So after your email program fetches email via POP3, that email resides only on your computer and nowhere else.**[1](https://askleo.com/what_is_pop_or_pop3_or_a_pop_account_and_what_about_smtp/" \l "al_footnote_1)** It’s perfect when you only read your email from a single location: your PC.
* IMAP assumes you want to leave the master copy of your email on the email server. IMAP is simply a way of looking at that master copy from a connected device. A computer connected via IMAP may (or may not) actually download your email to your computer.**[2](https://askleo.com/what_is_pop_or_pop3_or_a_pop_account_and_what_about_smtp/" \l "al_footnote_2)** It’s ideal if you want to access the same email account from several devices.