**Blue Waters Petascale Semester Curriculum v1.0**

**Unit 1: Computation Across the Curriculum**

**Lesson 1: Introduction to Parallel Computing**

**Sample Assessment**

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*Browse and search the full curriculum at*[*http://shodor.org/petascale/materials/semester-curriculum*](http://shodor.org/petascale/materials/semester-curriculum)

*We welcome your improvements! You can submit your proposed changes to this material and the rest of the curriculum in our GitHub repository at*[*https://github.com/shodor-education/petascale-semester-curriculum*](https://github.com/shodor-education/petascale-semester-curriculum)

*We want to hear from you! Please let us know your experiences using this material by sending email to* [*petascale@shodor.org*](mailto:petascale@shodor.org)

1. How is **parallel programming** different from **sequential programming**?
2. How does a **multi-core computer** attempt to improve performance as compared to a **single-core computer**?
3. What is **High Performance Computing (HPC)**?
4. What is [www.top500.org](http://www.top500.org) ?