Computing Homework 07/01/14

Open Source vs. Proprietary Software
- Operating system
    - Open source
        - Linux
    - Proprietary
        - OSX
        - Windows

Comparison: If you have a pre-built computer, such as an iMac or pretty much any laptop, then this decision is made for you. However, if you are making a computer yourself, then I would recommend. But if you are choosing for a company, then Windows is probably the best option.

- Web browser
    - Open source
        - Google Chrome
        - Firefox
    - Proprietary
        - Internet Explorer
        - Safari

Comparison: Internet Explorer and Safari are ones to avoid, mainly because Safari has a very, well, 'weird' UI and Internet Explorer doesn't support the latest web standards. I would choose Google Chrome mainly because of the plugin system, which allows you to use plugins like AdBlock, and as far as I know, Firefox doesn't have a plugin system.

- Text editor0
    - Open source
        - OpenOffice
    - Proprietary
        - Microsoft Word
        - Pages

Comparison: With this one, it really depends on the circumstances. If you are getting software for a company, use OpenOffice. Otherwise, if you're Windows, use Word, and if Mac, Pages. It's really that simple.

- Web server
    - Open source
        - Apache HTTP Server
    - Proprietary
        - Windows Server 2012

Comparison: I really don't know much about this one. It's probably safer just to use Windows Server.

- Database
  - Open source
    - OpenOffice Base
    - Firebird
  - Proprietary
    - Microsoft Office Access

Comparison: Again, I don't use this kind of thing, so probably use Access if you're in a group, otherwise use OpenOffice.