

PRACTICAL 5: Using practical examples, describe green computing. List and explain the steps that you can take to contribute to green computing.

Q1. WHAT IS GREEN COMPUTING?

Green computing comprised of two words “Green” and “Computing”. Green refers to the environment and computing refers to the processing. So, green computing is also known as “green information technology” is defined as the study of designing, manufacturing, using, disposing of computational devices with no effect or minimal impact on the environment. In simple terms, green computing takes care of environmental issues while conducting computational processing.



The major goal of green computing is to reduce hazardous materials and maximize energy efficiency while designing, manufacturing, and disposing of computers. Many corporate IT departments and large tech giants have green computing initiatives to reduce the environmental effect of their IT operations.

Q2. SOME EXAMPLES OF GREEN COMPUTING?

Renewable Energy Sources, Renewable energy sources don't use fossil fuel. They are freely available, friendly to the environment and generate little pollution. Apple, which is building a new corporate centre, plans to use wind turbine technology to power much of the building, and Google has already created a wind-powered data centre.

Alternative energy sources aren't limited to large corporations or to wind. Solar energy has long been available to homeowners. It is already possible for homeowners to install solar arrays, solar water heaters and wind generators to provide at least some of their energy requirements. Other familiar green technology sources include geothermal and hydroelectric energy.

Q3. STEPS THAT CAN BE USED TO CONTRIBUTE TO GREEN COMPUTING

- Purchase energy-saving hardware

purchasing energy-saving power supply units can save money, help the environment and they are often quieter.

- Power down computers while not using

many of us leave our computers running even when we are not using them, this leads to waste of energy. if you do not want to switch them off completely use sleep mode or hibernate, this will help save the power and keep it to its current state to use it when needed.

- Use a laptop instead of a desktop

Laptops are environmentally friendly because they have components that do not require a lot of power. use a laptop as much as you can.

- Use power-saving features

These features in a computer can command the computer to do various energy-saving tasks automatically, therefore saving a lot of power.

- Recycle responsibly

You should check with your authority to see which companies can safely dispose of old computer parts, this because computers have hazardous particles which affect the environment.