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Practice PT

The Internet and Society

Unit 1 Lesson 14 (U1L14)

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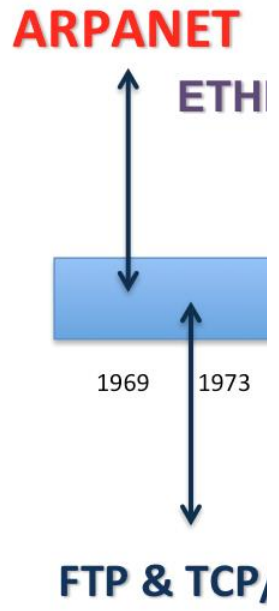
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Introduction to the Performance Task (PT)

At the beginning of this unit we looked at Vint Cerf's RFC entitled "[The Internet is for Everyone](#)" in which he laid out some challenges to the prospect that the Internet would be a large scale, open resource for everyone.

However, on the scale of human history, the Internet is still relatively new and the Internet has introduced some new and potentially difficult issues for people and society that have never existed before. We are still grappling with these issues and they often present moral and ethical dilemmas about what's best to do.





Introduction to the Performance Task (PT)

- By the same token **a large number of people do not understand as much about the Internet and how it works as you do.** You have now learned quite a bit about how the Internet works as a large scale system, that involves layers of abstraction, protocols and algorithms. You have learned about some of the most fundamental protocols and structures (IP, TCP, DNS...) that contribute to the functioning of the Internet.
- Several major issues facing society today require a knowledge of the Internet and how it works in order to have a well-informed opinion about what's best or the right thing to do. Over the next few days you will research one of these issues and prepare a (very) short presentation about it - a Flash Talk

Description

For this project you will **prepare a 2-minute “flash talk”** related to one of the major issues listed below about **the Internet and its effects on people and society**. A flash talk is a brief speech or presentation, intended to grab the attention of the audience and convey key information in a quick, insightful, and clear manner.

Purpose

The purpose of this flash talk is for you to demonstrate your knowledge (thus far) of the Internet and how it works, and to connect that to a relevant topic that has an impact on people and society that you care about.

Who is your audience? Not everyone knows as much about the Internet and how it works as you do now. Your speech should be directed at a person (or people) you care about and who you want to inform about this issue. You should provide them with enough technical detail that they can understand why and how it affects them, and the benefits and drawbacks of responses to the issue.

The Issues

There are several issues facing society right now for which it really helps to understand how the Internet functions in order to have an informed opinion.

Pick one of the three issues below to research and prepare your flash talk on.

Issue	Things to look for
<p>3. Advanced option: Protocol Vulnerabilities and/or Hacks</p> <p>The most common Internet protocols have certain vulnerabilities that attackers can take advantage of. For this option you should pick one of the common protocols: HTTP, DNS, TCP, IP (or TCP/IP) and do a web search for that protocol + “vulnerability” or “hack”. For example you might search for “TCP vulnerability”.</p> <p>This is an advanced option because some of the articles you find might be fairly technical. Your task will be to research one of these and be able to explain it in your flash talk in terms your classmates will understand.</p>	<p>HTTP, DNS, TCP, IP + Vulnerability or Hack</p>

Part 1: Pick and Research your Issue

- **Your selected issue:** Pick one of the issues listed above that interests you the most or that you'd like to know more about.
- **Reference 1:** Start by looking at the wikipedia article and scan the article for content related to Internet topics covered in class.
- **The focus of your speech:** Find an item or element of the article that interests you on which to base your 2-minute flash talk.
- **Reference: 2 and beyond:** Read further about the issue. Find *at least two* other articles (outside of Wikipedia) that relates to the issue.

Record your research in the organizer provided here:

My Selected issue:

Focus of my flash talk:

The position I will take in my talk:

What is the reference? What did I learn from this reference?	What are the positive (+) and negative (-) impacts on society, economy, or culture? What do I want people to know about this?	What connections can I make to what I've learned about the Internet so far?	What details have I learned that support the position I have taken on this issue?
Reference 2:			
Reference 3:			

Part 2. Write the Flash Talk

You will **need to submit a written copy** of what will be said in your flash talk.

Your 2-minute flash talk **must**:

1. **Explain the topic or issue**, including technical details of the Internet and how it works in the context of the issue you've chosen to investigate.
2. **Explain the societal impacts** (both positive and negative) related to the issue
3. **Give an informed opinion**, position, or call-to-action on the issue

That's a lot to pack into 2 minutes! So your script for the talk needs to be tight and you need to choose your words well. (**NOTE: 2 minutes of speech is about 300 words of text.**) Use your research organizer to help you focus on what's most important. You should probably also practice reading it out loud.

Part 3. Presentation and Evaluation

Your flash talk should be tight, coherent, and convey a point of view. It should also clearly demonstrate your knowledge of the Internet and how it works. Below are the primary criteria on which your talk will be evaluated.

The flash talk...	1 does not	2 almost	3 does a good job
Clearly explains the broad issue and what must be considered.			
Clearly focuses on one important aspect of the broader issue.			
Appropriately connects knowledge of the Internet to			

Day 1

- Start Research

Day 2

- Start Flash Talk Prep

Day 3

- Finish and Delivery

▼ Lesson 14: Practice PT - The Internet and Society



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Lesson Overview