

## VOCABULARY LIST

<b>Analog</b>	A way of transmitting information, pictures, etc. Most TV and radio (as well as audio-visual applications) are analog, as opposed to the computer, which is digital.
<b>Bit</b>	The smallest unit of information in a computing system.
<b>Byte</b>	Eight bits.
<b>CD-ROM</b>	Compact disk with computer information in a “read-only memory” format.
<b>Chip</b>	A small piece of silicon imprinted with microcircuits that form the heart of every computer.
<b>CPU</b>	“Central processing unit”—the heart of the computer, composed of silicon chips.
<b>Cursor</b>	The marker on the computer screen that is controlled by the mouse or arrow keys on the keyboard.
<b>Cyberspace</b>	Virtual place found only in the realm of computer networks.
<b>Digital</b>	Means of storage, transmission, and display that uses the computer operating system of numbers (0;1) instead of analog.
<b>Download</b>	Access and retrieve files from an online service or network.
<b>E-mail</b>	Transmission of messages electronically over local networks, the Internet, or online services.
<b>Fax/modem</b>	Hardware that makes it possible to use the computer to send messages or documents over telephone lines to other computers or fax machines.
<b>File</b>	A document stored in computer language.
<b>Floppy disk</b>	Device for magnetically storing computer information, located inside a plastic case for protection.
<b>Gigabyte</b>	A billion bytes or eight billion bits.
<b>Hacker</b>	A person well versed in computer operations and programming. Often used in a negative way to describe an individual who engages in illegal or unethical activities.
<b>Hard-disk drive</b>	Internal or external magnetic disk for storing computer information.
<b>Hardware</b>	The electronic or mechanical parts of a computing system.
<b>Information superhighway</b>	Any and all means of instant communication, including computer networks, the Internet, satellites, etc.
<b>Internet</b>	The worldwide linking of computer networks.

<b>Laptop</b>	A small portable computer.
<b>Laserdisk</b>	Disk similar to a CD-ROM, only with pictures and sound in a digital format that must be changed to analog for viewing on a TV monitor.
<b>Mac</b>	Macintosh, Apple Computer Company's personal computers.
<b>Megabyte</b>	A million bytes or eight million bits.
<b>Memory</b>	The amount of information a computer can store.
<b>Monitor</b>	The display screen attached to the computer.
<b>Mouse</b>	A device attached to the computer that moves the cursor around on the screen.
<b>Multimedia</b>	Using more than one medium at once, i.e., computer with TV.
<b>Network</b>	A linking of computers—within an office, building, country, world.
<b>Online services</b>	Subscription information services accessed via computer/modem, i.e., CompuServe, America OnLine, etc.
<b>PC</b>	"Personal computer"—usually refers to IBM home computers.
<b>RAM</b>	"Random-access memory"—short-term computer memory.
<b>ROM</b>	"Read-only memory"—memory permanently stored until erased from the hard disk of the computer.
<b>Scanner</b>	An optical device that transforms pictures or text into computer data.
<b>Snail mail</b>	Regular U.S. or foreign postal service mail.
<b>Software</b>	Programs written on floppy disks, CD-ROM disks, or laserdisks that run on electronic equipment and are used by the operator to perform certain functions or access information.
<b>Technophobic</b>	Someone afraid of technology.
<b>Universal translator</b>	Computer program that translates a spoken or written language into another language.
<b>Upload</b>	Send a file copy to an online service or network.
<b>Virtual reality</b>	The illusion of reality within a computer-generated space.
<b>Virus</b>	A program written, usually by a hacker, that disrupts software running on computer networks, or causes problems for computer operators. Often distributed by disk or online files.
<b>Virus protectors</b>	Special programs to screen for, protect against, and remove viruses.
<b>World Wide Web</b>	A subdivision of the Internet that uses text and visual data.