

MINET 2007 Quiz Prelims

In case of a tie, questions marked with an asterisk () will be tie-breakers.*

1. MM Hasham's family business of rice exports was lost when the government nationalized it in 1941. Undeterred, he plunged into the oil business. In 1947, during the Partition he was offered a ministerial post by Jinnah if he went to Pakistan. But, he chose to stay on in India. At the time of his death in 1967, his company had done reasonably well and had two popular oil brands – Sunflower and Camel. His son took over and entered a new field. How do we know them today?
Wipro. The son being referred to was Azim Premji.
2. Dan Quayle remarked that "If Al Gore invented the Internet, I invented spell check" – referring to his much publicized misspelling of the word 'potato(e)s' on camera. While Al Gore certainly did not invent the Internet, he did coin a phrase synonymous with it. What?
Information Superhighway
3. If Sun Microsystems developed Java, who developed JavaScript?
Netscape
4. What is 'abandonware'?
Software which is no longer supported by its creator.
5. Research In Motion (RIM) is a Canadian wireless device company headquartered in Waterloo, Ontario. It was founded by Mike Lazaridis, who currently serves as its co-CEO along with Jim Balsillie. What is their most famous product?
Blackberry
6. * Chinese being an ideographic language, new fangled common nouns are often represented as something similar rather than phonetically. This device, when it first came to China was seen only with the big shots and hence called 'Big Boss Brother'. Now that is more popular, it is known by a more conventional name. Which device are we talking about here?
Cellphone
7. AsiaInfo : China :: _____ : India. Fill in the blank.
Infosys

8. * Have a look at this description:
Peak computing power: 1 teraflop
Operating system: IBM AIX version 5.1L
Special facilities: Uses Copper and SOI technology, has more than 256 Power-4 RISC processors, configurations to form a 64-node CLOS network, in Symmetric Multiprocessor (SMP) configurations, Virtual Interface Provider (C-VIPL).
What are we talking about?
Param Padma (an Indian supercomputer)
9. Born in Buffalo, US to German parents he did his PhD from Columbia in 1980. He developed Jacquard's punched card idea to represent census data and then to read and collate data using automatic machine. In 1889 he filed Patent 395,782 for this invention. In 1896 he started Tabulating Machine Company and invented the first automatic feed mechanism which laid the foundation for the modern IT industry. In 1924, his firm became part of IBM. Who?
Herman Hollerith
10. An advertisement inviting applications for vacancies of an organization read:
Boy wizard
Insatiable National Geographic reader
Ardent Kurosawa fan
Neighborhood Scrabble champion
Future _____
Fill in the blank and also name the organization.
Infoscion. The organization being Infosys.
11. "The Homebrew Club was the most important event in my life. I lived it. Every spare minute of the day, up late till 2, 3, 4. I wrote programs, I always tried to get to the next stage of my computer done by the meeting. And don't think I ever failed to do so. But boy, it really drove my life, gave it a reason to have a schedule; but that's because it was the most important thing happening in the world. It was like a revolution I had never seen. You read about technological revolution and here was one of those sorts of things and I was part of it." Quote from a person largely responsible for getting the computer to the masses. Who?
Steve Wozniak

12. What started in 1994 as a research project in the company called Telenor (Norway's largest telecom company), and later became an independent software company named after its most famous suite of products in 1995? The company's name though means something unrelated to information technology.

Opera

13. * A teenage Welsh hacker calling himself 'Saint of eCommerce' cracked numerous computer networks and gained access to more than 2300 credit card numbers. His best known stunt, however, was using Bill Gates' own credit card number to mail order the Microsoft chairman a large shipment of what?

Viagra

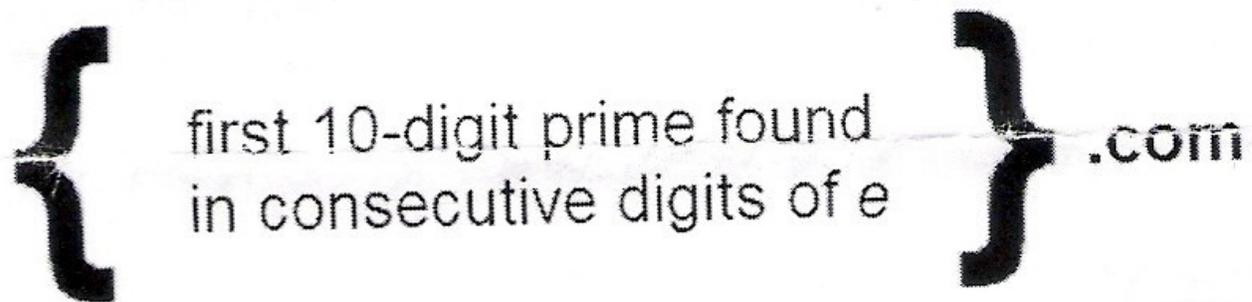
14. In one of the *Star Trek : The Original Series* episodes, while investigating a 20th century earth ship Dr McCoy picks up a device attached to a PC and assumes it to be a speech recognition device and tries to speak into it. What was the device?

A mouse

15. Born Janos Lajos Margittai in Budapest to a Jewish family, he was nicknamed as 'Jancsi'. After doing his PhD in Mathematics from Budapest at the age of 23, in 1930 he was invited to Princeton where he worked as a professor at the Institute for Advanced Study till his death. One of the initiators of Game Theory, he along with Oskar Morgenstern published *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior*. Along with Hans Bethe and Victor Weisskopf, he was in the theory division of the Manhattan Project. The architecture used in non-parallel processing computers is named after him. He also founded the field of cellular automata. Who is he?

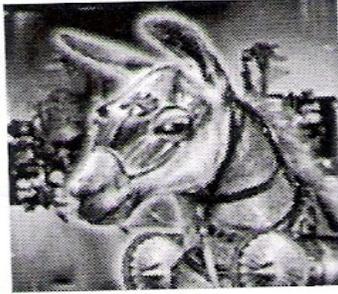
John von Neumann

16. Which company can be associated with this image?



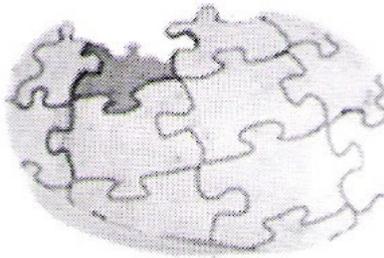
Google. One googol is 10^{100} .

17. Identify the software related to this picture.



Winamp. Does 'whipping the llama's ass' ring a bell?

18. What logo is this?



Uncyclopedia

19. Expand the following:

1. GIMP – *GNU Image Manipulation Program*
2. RISC – *Reduced Instruction Set Computer*
3. CMOS – *Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor*
4. BIT – *Binary Digit*

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