

Packet Riders Penny's Search Essay Question Ideas

Here are a few suggestions for evaluation through essays:

1. What is FTP and why is it important? (file transfer protocol is the most common way of sending data from one computer to another)
2. How does a search engine find what you are looking for on the Internet? (answers may include information about databases, keywords, web crawlers finding and indexing of sites, etc.)
3. Why is video streaming important for viewing video on the Internet? (answers may include information on breaking down the files into tiny packets that are sent out through the Internet one at a time, but can be viewed as they arrive. It's like a stream of packets coming in with the video. Without video streaming, today's computers would take much too long to download a video.)
4. What problems do packets face when traveling through wireless connections? (answers may include: space weather--meteor showers, comets, sunspots, asteroids, etc, interference, latency--delay between transmission of data and reception of data, and distance.)
5. What types of careers were described in Penny's Search and how do these careers make use of technologies? (answers should include marine biologist, research scientist and independent recording artists; use of the Internet for finding and obtaining information; use of technologies such as underwater cameras, music encoders, etc.)

