Networks

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Computer Science · SL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
network /ˈnetwɜːk/	A **network** connects computers so they can share data.
LAN	A school network in one building is a **LAN**.
WAN	The internet is a huge **WAN**.
VPN /ˌviː piː ˈen/	A **VPN** keeps your connection private.
MAC address /mæk əˈdres/	Each network card has its own **MAC address**.
switch /swɪtʃ/	A **switch** sends data only to the computer it is for.
router /ˈruːtə/	A **router** sends packets between networks.
firewall /ˈfaɪəwɔːl/	A **firewall** blocks unsafe data.
client–server	In a **client–server** network, computers ask a server for files.
peer-to-peer /pɪə tə pɪə/	In a **peer-to-peer** network, every computer is equal.
topology /təˈpɒlədʒi/	A star **topology** joins every computer to one central switch.
protocol /ˈprəʊtəkɒl/	A **protocol** is a set of rules for sending data.
layer	Each **layer** of a network model does one job.

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encapsulation /ɪnˌkæpsjʊˈleɪʃn/	**Encapsulation** keeps an object's data private.
DHCP /ˌdiː eɪtʃ siː ˈpiː/	**DHCP** gives each new device an IP address. IP
DNS /ˌdiː en ˈes/	**DNS** turns a name like example.com into an IP address. example.com IP
IP address /ˌaɪ ˈpiː əˈdres/	An **IP address** identifies a device on a network. IP
packet switching /ˈpækɪt ˈswɪtʃɪŋ/	In **packet switching**, packets can take different routes.
packet /ˈpækɪt/	Data is split into small parts; each part is a **packet**.
bandwidth /ˈbændwɪdθ/	A fast connection has a high **bandwidth**.
latency /ˈleɪtənsi/	High **latency** makes online games lag.
throughput /ˈθruːpʊt/	**Throughput** is the number of instructions done each second.
authentication /ɔːˌθentɪˈkeɪʃn/	A password is a kind of **authentication**.
authorization /ˌɔːθəraɪˈzeɪʃn/	**Authorization** decides what a logged-in user is allowed to do.
encryption /enˈkrɪpʃn/	**Encryption** makes the message unreadable to others.
symmetric encryption /sɪˈmetrɪk enˈkrɪpʃn/	**Symmetric encryption** uses one key for both sides.
asymmetric encryption /ˌeɪsɪˈmetrɪk enˈkrɪpʃn/	**Asymmetric encryption** uses a public key and a private key.

Word	Example
digital certificate /ˈdɪdʒɪtl səˈtɪfɪkət/	A **digital certificate** proves that the website is real.

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