

Student Worksheet

DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

STORY

Privacy Concerns Arise As Digital Life Trends Toward Cloud Computing, 05/05/2009

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/science/jan-june09/cloudcomputing_05-05.html

READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is cloud computing?

2. Why is cloud computing helpful?

3. Why can cloud computing be important for schools?

4. Why does Facebook, the social networking site, have to borrow money?

5. What is Moore's Law?

6. Why were Facebook users worried earlier this year?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

1. Did you know that some companies could use your data if you store it on their servers? Does that make you nervous? Why or why not? Does that change your feeling about these companies?

2. Do you think that the benefits of cloud computing outweigh the costs? Explain your answer with specific details.

3. How do you use cloud computing? How does your school?

4. Look into the future 10 years. How has cloud computing changed our lives?

Extension Activity

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra (extra@newshour.org). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.