Unit 6: Security, Copyright and the Law

Q1: What is meant by security?

Security is a system of safeguards. It is designed to protect a computer system and data from being damaged or accessed by unauthorized persons.

Q2: What is computer virus?

A small hidden program that may disturb the normal functioning of the computer is called computer virus. It may also destroy the important data stored in the computer. The computer virus cannot damage hardware, only data or software is corrupted.

Q3: How virus spread from one computer to another?

Just like a biological virus, a computer virus can spread from one computer to another computer. Usually viruses are transferred from one computer to another due to exchange of data and programs through floppy disk, CD-ROM, and through computer networks.

Q4: Write down some causes of computer viruses?

There are many ways through which viruses may be transferred from one computer to another. Most common ways are:

- E-Mail
- Network
- Removable Storage
- Pirated software Media

Q5: List some types of viruses?

There are many types of viruses, but the most importance types of viruses are:

- Boot Sector
- Chernobal Virus
- Logic bomb
- Trojan Horse Virus
- Redlof

Q6: What is boot sector virus?

The boot sector virus is a type of virus. It modifies the program in the boot sector. It is loaded into memory whenever computer is turned on. This virus is attached with the executable files, i.e. exe, .dll files.

Q7: What is Trojan horse?

Trojan horse is a type of virus which hides itself in some computer programs. When these programs are executed, the Trojan virus is activated. This virus affects the performance of the computer. An example of Trojan horse is format C.

Q8: What is Redlof?

Redlof virus is a polymorphic virus. Polymorphic means „to change nature with passage of time". This virus changes its nature with passage of time and therefore, it is difficult to catch by an anti-virus program. It is written in visual basic script. Normally, this virus infects the file „„Folders.htt"".

Q9: What are anti-viruses?   (Multan Board 2012)

The special programs that are used to detect and remove the viruses from the computer are called antivirus programs. Antivirus programs contain information about different known viruses. McAfee and Norton are examples of most popular antivirus programs.

Q10: What is meant by data security?   (Sahiwal Board 2013)

The protection of data is called data security. Most of the data of an organization stored inside the computer is very important. The data can be lost or destroyed due to different reasons. It can be deleted accidentally or intentionally.

Q11: What is meant by encryption?

Data encryption is a technique in which sensitive data is encoded before its storage or transmission over a network. If anyone (unauthorized person) gets access to the data, he could not be able to understand it.

Q12: What is meant by protection?

Hiding data belonging to a person or organization from other persons or organizations is called data protection.

Q13: What is meant by password?

A secret word or code assigned to documents and programs, or computer system to protect from unauthorized access is called password. You have to type the correct password to open the system.

Q14: What is meant by copyright?

Copyright is the branch of law. It protects the creative work from illegal use. The categories of works that copyright protects may include: software, books (or any other written material), recording films and many other products etc.

Q15: What is 1998 Data Protection Act?

This act came into force early in 1999. It is much broader in its scope than the 1984 act. It applies to anything done to the personal data. It may include collection, use, disclosure and destruction or simply holding the personal data.

Q16: What is Copyright Act?

The principal law governing software piracy is the "Copyright Act 1976". Some amendments were made in this law in 1983. Now "software piracy" is believed to be a punishable crime. It may involve huge amounts of penalties. Software is believed to be an "intellectual property". It is developed and brought into market after a lot of efforts and cost.

Q17: Define backup?

An additional copy of data or information stored on secondary storage media is called the backup of data.

Q18: What is the difference between complete backup and incremental backup?

Backup of all data on the hard disk is called complete backup while incremental backup creates a copy of only the data that is newly created or modified since the last backup.

Q19: Write down the names of different media used for data backup?

•   Floppy Disks •   Zip Disk   •   Magnetic Tape   •   CD

Q20: State the purpose of password?   **(Sahiwal Board 2013)**

The purpose of password is to protect data stored on a computer. It protects data from being lost, misused or deleted by any person. The system can be accessed by a person who knows the password.

Q21: What is 1980 Piracy Protection Act? (Sahiwal Board 2013)

This act prohibits agents of federal government from making unannounced searches of press office.

Q22: What is 1984 Cable Communication Policy Act?

This act restricts cable companies in the collection and sharing of information about their customers.

Q23: What is 1987 Computer Security Act?

This act makes actions that affect the computer security files and telecommunication illegal.

Q24: What is 1988 Video Privacy Protection Act?

This act prevents the disclosure of a person"s video rental records without a court order.

Q25: What is Matching Privacy Protection Act of 1988?

This act prevents the government from comparing certain records to find a match.

Q26: What is Computer Misuse Act of 1990?

This act makes provision to secure computer material against unauthorized access or modification.

Q27: How can virus damage a computer? (Multan Board 2012)

1.   A virus can damage data or software on the computer
2.   It can delete some or all files on the computer system
3.   It can destroy all data by formatting hard drive