Points that were explained and/or written in last class

1. What a computer means to you (technical definition).
2. Definition of some basic terms & acronyms in Information Technology e.g WWW, Internet, Gateway, Hardware, Software etc.
3. Basic organization of computers in terms of hardware components (Monolithic & Components)
4. Difference between Computer Monitors & Television Screens in terms of image or information display. (two)
5. Monitors: LCDs, CRTs
6. Cables: Wires and other computer peripheral cables e.g power, keyboard cables etc and their use. (Safety measures when using power cables.)

------------------------Just to compliment your class notes-------------------------

Peripheral – Think outside the box...
  Mouse – Pointing device, relies on an XY grid to move around, diagram...
  Keyboard – Data entry device, transfers the written word to electronic form. Not a hard concept.

Printer – Prints what you typed, may use the next three systems:
  Serial: --check your class notes for details--
  Parallel: --check your class notes for details--
  USB:-- --check your class notes for details--

Access to Internet – We know what it is, and how to use it, but how does it work?
  Local Network Connection – All you on-campus residents as well as people who have a cable modem use this. Works at a high speed to transfer data.
  Phone line – You have to call in to a service to bring the internet in, slow, ties up the phone, disconnects, etc.
  Modem / Network card – your gateway out to the internet, transfers the signal coming from you wall to information you can actually use...

Sound – can go in or out, speakers and microphones fall into this category.
Motherboard - everything in the computer must in someway be connected to this, the Microprocessor, drives, internet, peripherals, etc. This device acts as a ‘traffic cop’, allowing the Processor to give orders to everyone, and allowing for everyone to get work accomplished.

Software – non physical entity, consists of programs that a human being spent hours toiling over, just for your personal enjoyment.

Note that Application Programs are special programs (packages) written collectively to accomplish specific tasks e.g. Microsoft Office.

“Executing” Programs – you aren’t killing them. On the contrary you are bringing them to life. Running a program allows you the user to accomplish something, maybe as it was intended or not as it was intended (more on that much later).

The operating System – this is also software, and is a collection of programs. When you start the computer you ‘boot’ the operating system (run it). It runs as long as the computer is on.

Internet: Totality of all wires, fibers, switches, routers, satellite links and other hardware used to transport information between named computers.

WWW: Collection of all HTML servers connected by the Internet and their information resources.

For your personal development – check some ‘Analytical thinking’ issues discussed in your textbook.

That is much like ‘word’ problems in math. Many of you more than likely hate word problems, so this may also not be your favorite.

The example on page 21 – 22 is a good thing to read, but rather boring, and is also a good type of test question (I won’t give a question like this, but maybe other classes will). Make sure you know what is going on.

What’s the general idea? Although the numbers may seem small (fractions of seconds), when used in the right ‘context’ they become very significant. The fact that it took a long period of time to overcome such a small time difference shows how hard it was, and therefore very significant.

Percentages and ‘factors’ play a large roll in computers, make sure you understand the math they are doing in the book, I wont go over it in detail. If you don’t understand, ASK.