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**QUESTION 1**

An administrator is replacing a cable that uses a DB9 connector. Which of the following cables is the administrator replacing?

- A. Parallel
- B. Serial
- C. Optical
- D. USB

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The correct answer is B. Serial. A serial cable is a type of cable that can be used to connect devices that use serial communication, which is a method of sending data one bit at a time over a single wire. Serial cables are often used for console access to network devices, such as routers, switches, firewalls, or servers, when other methods of connection, such as SSH (Secure Shell), are not available or not working. A DB9 connector is a type of connector that has nine pins and is commonly used for serial cables. DB stands for D-subminiature, which is a family of connectors that have a D-shaped metal shield and different numbers of pins. DB9 connectors are also known as DE-9 connectors, as they belong to the E size category of D-subminiature connectors. DB9 connectors can support various serial standards, such as RS-232, RS-422, or RS-485. A parallel cable is a type of cable that can be used to connect devices that use parallel communication, which is a method of sending data multiple bits at a time over multiple wires. Parallel cables are often used for connecting printers or scanners to computers, but they are not commonly used for network devices or serial connections. An optical cable is a type of cable that can be used to transmit data using light signals over fiber-optic strands. Optical cables can offer high-speed, high-bandwidth, and low-interference data transmission over long distances. Optical cables are often used for network communication, such as Ethernet, or audio/video transmission, such as HDMI or TOSLINK. A USB cable is a type of cable that can be used to connect devices that use the Universal Serial Bus (USB) standard, which is a protocol that allows data and power transmission between devices. USB cables can support various types of devices, such as keyboards, mice, cameras, flash drives, or chargers. USB cables have different versions and connectors, such as USB-A, USB-B, USB-C, or Micro-USB. Therefore, the only cable that uses a DB9 connector is a serial cable. For more information about cables and connectors, you can refer to the following web search results: [What Is a Serial Cable?], [What Is a Parallel Cable?], [What Is an Optical Cable?], [What Is a USB Cable?].

QUESTION 2

A technician needs to upgrade the power supply of a workstation that contains a high-end graphics card, 16 hyperthreaded cores, and multiple hard drives. Which of the following should the technician use to determine the appropriate power supply for the workstation?

- A. The manufacturer's specifications for the components
- B. The wattage of the current power supply
- C. The wattage of the motherboard
- D. The capacity of the hard drives
- E. The number of hyperthreaded cores

Correct Answer: A



Explanation: The manufacturer's specifications for the components are the best source of information to determine the appropriate power supply for the workstation. The manufacturer's specifications will list the power requirements and recommendations for each component, such as the graphics card, the CPU, the hard drives, and the motherboard. By adding up the power consumption of each component, the technician can estimate the total wattage needed for the workstation. The technician should also consider some extra headroom for future upgrades or peak loads. The technician can then choose a power supply that meets or exceeds the total wattage and has the right connectors and form factor for the workstation.

QUESTION 3

Which of the following network devices is needed to direct packets to networks outside of the LAN?

- A. Hub
- B. Switch
- C. Router
- D. Bridge

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: A router is a network device that connects multiple networks together and directs data packets to their intended destinations. This includes directing packets to networks outside of the local area network (LAN). Routers use routing tables to determine the best path for data packets to travel.

Hubs and switches operate within a single LAN and are not capable of routing packets to external networks.

Bridges can connect two LANs together, but they do not have the intelligence to route packets to external networks.

Therefore, only routers are capable of directing packets to networks outside of the LAN.

References:

CompTIA A+ Certification Core 1 220-1101 Study Guide, Chapter 4: Networking, Section 4.1 Networking Fundamentals

QUESTION 4

A technician is upgrading a desktop's storage with the fastest option available. The desktop's motherboard is equipped with SATA III, NVMe, and IDE. Which of the following should the technician choose for the best performance?

- A. PCIe SSD connected via NVMe interface
- B. 3.5in (8.9cm) 10,000rpm HDD connected via IDE interface
- C. M.2 SSD connected via SATA interface
- D. 2.5in (6.35cm) SSD connected via SATA interface

Correct Answer: A

The best option that the technician should choose for the best performance is A. PCIe SSD connected via NVMe



interface. This option means that the technician should install a solid state drive (SSD) that uses the PCIe (Peripheral Component Interconnect Express) bus and the NVMe (Non-Volatile Memory Express) protocol to communicate with the motherboard. This option can offer the following advantages: Faster speed: PCIe SSDs can transfer data faster than SATA or IDE SSDs, as they use more lanes and have higher bandwidth. PCIe SSDs can reach speeds of up to 7,000 MB/s, while SATA SSDs are limited to 600 MB/s and IDE SSDs are even slower¹². NVMe is a protocol that is designed specifically for SSDs and can optimize their performance by reducing latency and increasing parallelism³. Smaller size: PCIe SSDs can be smaller than SATA or IDE SSDs, as they do not require additional cables or connectors. PCIe SSDs can come in different form factors, such as M.2 or U.2, which can fit in different slots on the motherboard¹². Higher reliability: PCIe SSDs can be more reliable than SATA or IDE SSDs, as they have less moving parts and are less prone to mechanical failures or data corruption. PCIe SSDs can also support features such as error correction and wear leveling, which can enhance their durability and lifespan¹².

QUESTION 5

A technician needs to test a new USB headset for videoconference calls. Audio playback is working as expected, but sound from the microphone is not being recorded. The Device Manager and Sound settings show the microphone is installed. Which of the following should the technician do next?

- A. Examine the application and device mute controls.
- B. Connect the headset to a different USB port.
- C. Check the device's driver release date.
- D. Increase the speaker volume setting.

Correct Answer: A

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