**Application:** Applications software (also called end-user programs) include database programs, word processors, spreadsheets, and multimedia programs.

**Blog:** Also called *weblog*. A website that displays in chronological order the postings by one or more individuals and usually has links to comments on specific postings.

**Boot:** To start (a computer) by loading an operating system from a disk.

**CPU:** Abbreviation of Central Processing Unit. This is the brains of the computer. This unit directs the computer’s activities. Every instruction given by the operator must first pass through the CPU before it can be carried out.

**Database:** A collection of data arranged for ease and speed of search and retrieval. Also called *data bank*.

**Desktop:** It's a metaphor to denote file systems on the computer’s home screen.The background image of a display screen, on which windows, icons, and other graphical items appear.

**Hard drive:** A hardware device that reads data stored on hard disks. It is also called *hard disk drive*.

**Download:** The process of transferring software/information from a server to a computer (the opposite is *upload*)

**FAQ:** Frequently Asked Questions. A list of questions and answers that are often asked by beginners to help them use a computer, an application or a website.

**File:** An aggregation of data on a storage device, identified by a name.

**Firewall:** An application used to keep unauthorized users from accessing parts of a network or computer.

**Folder:** A virtual container in a computer's file system, in which files and other folders may be stored. The files and subfolders in a folder are usually related.

**Format:** To prepare a mass storage medium for initial use, erasing any existing data in the process.

**HTML:** Abbreviation of **Hypertext Markup Language**. A computer language containing a set of tags and rules used in developing hypertext documents to be presented on web browsers, allowing incorporation of text, graphics, sound, video and hyperlinks.

**Internet:** Millions of computer networks that communicate together

**Keyboard:** A set of keys that allows you to type and enter information on the computer.

**LAN : Local Area Network**, as contrasted with a **WAN**, or ***Wide Area Network***. An interconnection of computers that are in relatively close proximity to each other, such as within a building.

**Monitor:** A device similar to a television set used as to give a graphical display of the output from a computer.

**Modem:** A device that encodes digital computer signals into analog/analogue telephone signals and vice versa and allows computers to communicate over a phone line.

**Mouse:** An input device that is moved over a pad or other flat surface to produce a corresponding movement of a pointer on a graphical display.

**RAM:** Random Access Memory. Computer memory that dynamically stores and retrieve program and data values during operation.

**ROM:** A computer memory chip that stores values but does not allow updates, in which the values are nonvolatile in that they are retained even when the computer is unpowered.

**Server:** A computer or a program which provides services to other programs or users.

**URL:** A Uniform Resource Locator: the address of a web page, ftp site, audio stream or other Internet resource

**Virus:** A program which can covertly transmit itself between computers via networks (especially the Internet) or removable storage such as CDs, USB drives, floppy disks, etc., often causing damage to systems and data.

**WAN:** Wide Area Network, as contrasted with a LAN, or Local Area Network. Used to describe a computer network that covers a large geographic area, which can refer to several buildings in a city, or several cities. Can refer to a group of LANs connected by dedicated long-distance links.

**Website:** A set of interconnected web pages, usually including a homepage, generally located on the same server, and prepared and maintained as a collection of information by a person, group, or organization.

**WWW:** World Wide Web. Collectively, all of the web pages on the Internet which hyperlink to each other and to other kinds of documents and media.