Internet Activity Presentation Planner

Introduction to Business
Chapter 19 Computer Basics

In Chapter 19, you learned that, "Software is a computer program that contains a set of instructions that tell a computer what to do." Improvements in software tend to evolve at a snail's pace when the process is left in the hands of most software manufacturers. An alternative to software development done by corporations is open source coding. Open source code is a method that allows anyone with skill and knowledge as a programmer to read, write, modify, and distribute the source code for software. Software that utilizes open source coding evolves and improves much faster. This is due, in part, to the fact that many people can simultaneously identify problems in the software and work to correct them. Produce and present a 10-minute presentation about open source code. Discuss how it came to be, the benefits of open source code, and the pro and con arguments of its supporters and opponents.

Action Steps for Planning a Presentation
1. Get started by building background knowledge. Read newspaper articles, search the Internet, and make personal phone calls to local experts to understand the issues.
2. Decide on a specific topic. Narrow your focus to a topic that interests you.
3. Research your topic in greater depth. Use books, local media, the Internet, and personal interviews. Take detailed notes and maintain a bibliography as you work.
4. Review your notes and write an outline of your presentation.
5. Plan and create visual aids.
6. Write a draft of your presentation and practice it. Rewrite, practice again, and present.

1. Build Background Knowledge

Did You Know?
Think about these fascinating facts and what they might have to do with open source code.
[begin bulleted list]
•The "open source" label came out of a strategy session held on February 3, 1998 in Palo Alto, California.
•Proprietary software is software that does not allow access to its source code.
•Source code is a series of statements written in some human-readable programming language.
•Source code is converted to machine code, which is not in a format easily read by humans.
[end bulleted list]

Questions to Ponder
Think about these questions and what they might have to do with open source code.
[begin bulleted list]
•What was the original intent of open source coding?

•What are the benefits of open source coding?
•Why do some people disagree with open source code software?
•What are the legal ramifications of open source coding?
•How do you view the source code of a software program?
[end bulleted list]

Key Search Words
Use key words to search for Web sites that relate to your topic. List other key words you uncover in your search. Take notes about what you find and review your notes later as you narrow your topic.
machine code, source code, Unix, Linux, Mozilla

_____

_____

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Web Sites
_____

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2. Decide on Your Topic

Narrow Your Focus
Complete the following flow chart to narrow your topic. Choose a topic that interests you and that will also interest your audience. Write a title and a sentence or two about your talk and ask your teacher to approve it or suggest changes.

Software > Source Code > _____

Title: _____

Description: _____

_____

_____

Approval: _____ Date: _____

                                    (Teacher's Signature)

3. Conduct Research

Maintain a Bibliography
In addition to Web sites you use in your research, list books and periodicals you consult, and contact information for experts you interview.

Books

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Periodicals

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Names and Addresses

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4. Write an Outline

Main Ideas and Details
Review your notes and think through the main ideas and details you want to include in your presentation. Put the main ideas in a logical order and list them in outline form as major headings. Include at least two details under each main idea.

I. Introduction

      A. _____

      B. _____

II. Main Idea

      A. _____

      B. _____

III. Main Idea

      A. _____

      B. _____

IV. Main Idea

      A. _____

      B. _____

V. Conclusion

      A. _____

      B. _____

5. Plan Visual Aids

Charts, Graphs, Photos, and Video Clips
Describe the visual aids you plan to use in your presentation or use the space below to sketch charts or graphs you will create.

_____

_____

_____

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Tips on Creating and Using Visual Aids
[begin bulleted list]
Keep them simple, use them sparingly, and make them visible to everyone in the audience.
Explain the content of the aid when you first show it.
When you finish with the aid, remove it or cover it up.
Be prepared to give your talk without visual aids if technical problems occur.

6. Write, Practice, and Present

Rehearsal Time
After writing a draft of your presentation, rehearse by yourself in front of a mirror. Then ask two others to listen and evaluate your talk. Ask them to complete the evaluation form below. Then, use their comments to rewrite and improve your talk. Then, practice again before making your final presentation.

	Evaluator #1	Evaluator #2
1. Did my introduction grab your interest?	_____	_____
2. Did I present my ideas logically?	_____	_____
3. Were my visual aids useful?	_____	_____
4. Did I speak clearly and slowly?	_____	_____
5. Are you interested in learning more?	_____	_____

6. Suggestions for how I can improve:

_____

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