

5

Networking

Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What are some components of a computer network?
- 2 How does a computer network help a business?

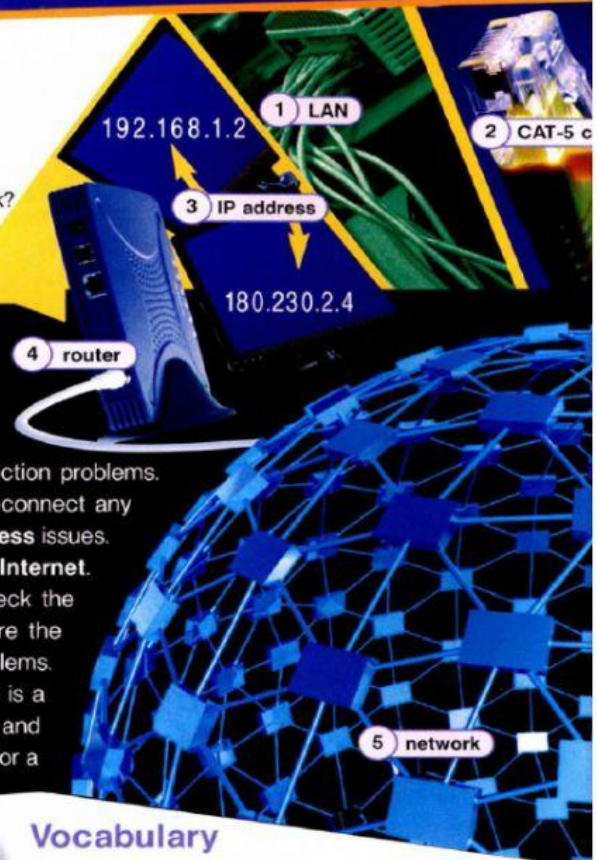
PC Tech

Vol. 29, No. 3

Solutions for Networking

Network Troubleshooting

People often call IT professionals about **network** connection problems. But many problems are easy to fix without help. First, reconnect any loose **CAT-5** cable connections. Next, investigate **IP address** issues. This group of numbers allows communication on the **Internet**. Renewing your **DHCP** fixes most IP problems. Next, check the **router**. The router links **LANs** to the Internet. Make sure the router's **configuration** is correct. **WLANs** have other problems. Interference often blocks their wireless signals. But there is a simple solution. Just move the router away from walls and metals. Finally, **cycle** the network. Turn all equipment off for a full minute and then restart.



Reading

2 Read the article about networks. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A how to set up a network
 - B correcting network problems
 - C choosing network equipment
 - D a comparison of LANs and WLANs
- 2 What can you infer from the passage?
 - A A computer is not functioning during a cycle.
 - B LAN routers do not work well near walls or metals.
 - C Interference impacts a router's configuration.
 - D Renewing an IP address fixes DHCP errors.
- 3 According to the passage, a LAN _____.
 - A assigns IP addresses
 - B requires a router
 - C links CAT-5 cables
 - D cycles a network

Vocabulary

3 Fill in the blanks with the correct words or phrases from the word bank.

Word Bank

DHCP CAT-5 cable router network
cycle WLAN Internet configuration

- 1 The _____ lets a network connect to the Internet.
- 2 A LAN is a type of _____.
- 3 Businesses communicate on the _____.
- 4 We do not use cables for our network. We have a _____.
- 5 Routers need a correct _____ to work properly.
- 6 Businesses with a LAN use _____ to connect computers.
- 7 It is sometimes necessary to _____ a network to make it work.
- 8 The _____ provides different IP addresses for computers.

4 Choose the best definition for each word.

1 router

- A a part of a computer C a networking device
B a wireless network

2 IP address

- A a city-wide network C a networking device
B an identification number

3 LAN

- A a local network C a wireless network
B a networking device

5 Listen and read the article about networks again. What could help a user having problems with an IP address?

Listening

6 Listen to an IT professional talking with a customer about setting up a network. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 What does the woman want to buy?
A a LAN C a router
B a WLAN D a CAT-5 cable
- 2 Why does the woman choose a wireless network?
A She does not have CAT-5 cables.
B Her computers are not close to each other.
C She does not like her present network.
D Her router doesn't support a LAN.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

IT Professional: Hi. Can I help you find something?

Customer: Oh, please. I need a 1 _____.

IT Professional: Well, there are a few types. What kind of 2 _____ do you have?

Customer: I don't have one yet, but it's for the computers in my home.

IT Professional: Do you want a LAN or a WLAN? Some routers don't 3 _____ both types.

Customer: What's the difference?

IT Professional: A WLAN connects computers wirelessly. A LAN 4 _____ with CAT-5 cables.

Customer: My computers are far 5 _____. I'd need a WLAN.