Network range and speed

Complete the conversation. Select the missing word.

| 92 | 300 | 150 | 46 | 3 | 512 | 56 |

Karoline: How do you describe network speed?

Sam: In bits, kilobits, megabits and gigabits. They describe network speed. For example, dial-up connections allow (1) _____ kilobits per second and DSL from (2) _____ kilobits per second to (3) _____ megabits per second.

Karoline: OK. I've got that. What about the range?

Sam: Range is the distance of network coverage, so distance units represent network range. Most countries use metric but some use feet as units of measurement. Metres or feet usually describe the range of a network. Home networking routers support a range up to (4) _____ feet or (5) _____ metres indoors and (6) _____ feet or (7) _____ metres outdoors.

Karoline: Thanks.

Read the paragraph and answer the questions.

Range

Wireless networks have limited range. Network range depends on the type of 802.11 protocol, strength of the device transmitter and the architecture of the surrounding area. Some structures, such as walls and metal frames, reduce the range of a WLAN by 25%. However, users can extend the range of a WLAN. Repeaters forward the wireless signal to access points or routers and increase the range of a network.

Speed

Bandwidth and latency are the measures of computer network speed, or data transfer rate. Bandwidth is the maximum throughput of data in bits per second.

Some modems support 100 Gbit/s but speed depends on the hardware and software used. Latency is the delay that network creates during the transfer data. Users have no, or very little, control over bandwidth and latency.

1 How many things does network range depend on?
2 What can reduce network range?
3 What can improve network range?
4 What two things affect speed?