

# 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?

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## 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.

6 WLAN



## Reading

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

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