



broadly: generally, without considering details
feature: important characteristic or part; attribute
initiate: to make something begin; set/put in motion
graphical user interface (GUI): a computer program that enables sb to communicate and interact with an electronic device (e.g., a computer, smartphone, etc.) through the use of symbols and pointing devices
release: to make information or a product (e.g., a film or recording) available to the public
hold: (n.) power or control over sth or sb; influence
usher in: to make sth new (e.g., an activity, process, era etc.) begin; be the beginning of sth new
solidify: to become or make sth become more definite or certain and less likely to change
geek: (inf.) sb who knows a lot about a subject
suite: a set of related computer programs
bundle: a number of things held or tied together

harken (or: hark) back to: 1) to make sb think of or recall sth; evoke, 2) to have originated as sth material (e.g., plastic) that you can see on a screen by shining a light through it
be worth (doing) sth: to be important, useful, helpful or interesting enough to receive a particular action
modify: to make small changes to sth in order to improve it
defragmentation (also known as **defragging**): reorganizing fragments of related data on a hard drive into a continuous arrangement
(v. defragment)
shortcomings: (usu. pl) a fault or weakness that makes sb or sth less effective
subsequent: happening or coming after sth else; following

► Activity 1: Fill in the gaps with suitable words. (Hint: All the missing words except one appear in the glossary.)

1. Modern smartphones _____ to the rotary phones of the past.
2. The early computers were extremely slow by today's _____.
3. Linux has recently _____ a new operating system, which provides several advantages over Microsoft's Windows operating systems.
4. Today, the most common way of lecture delivery in many Universities is the use of PowerPoint (PPT) presentations; however, some professors still lecture by using _____ and an overhead projector (TOHP) or the more traditional blackboard method.
5. When older people run into computer problems, they turn to their children (or grandchildren) for help. Most of them have become computer _____ by the age of 14!
6. To make computer hardware work, we need software that acts as an _____ between the user and the hardware.
7. Mobile phones _____ a new era in communications.
8. After a series of scandals, the government has lost its _____ on the public confidence.
9. Defragmentation is a process _____ doing if you want to enjoy a computer with optimal performance and good speed.
10. Because of the _____ of the program, we have decided to replace it as soon as possible with a newer version with fewer design faults.



old rotary phone

► Activity 2: Match the words in Row A with their synonyms in Column B:

Row A: initiate, convert, dominate, compatible, do calculations, accomplish, bundle
 Row B: well-matched, monopolize, start, achieve, perform computations, transform, package