

## HSC IPT | Issues related to Communications Systems

### Assessment prologue

Few technologies have invaded our lives like communications systems, and few technologies wield the raw power that communications systems do. A large part of the reason for this is that communications systems are able to amplify and clarify naturally human qualities, namely: relationship, interaction and influence. By extension, these same systems are able to silence or obscure just as easily as they can amplify and clarify.

### Assigned task

In relation to an assigned issue (control/censorship, privacy, new communities, overwhelming data levels, ease of spreading data, convergence, impersonal communications, online trading/commerce), complete the following tasks in pairs:

- ▶ Prepare a 3-minute presentation on the issue, in which you and your partner discuss the issue from multiple perspectives.
- ▶ Compose a set of HSC-style questions that address aspects of the issue, making sure you incorporate real-world examples and a variety of different-level HSC keywords.
- ▶ Prepare marking rubrics and sample answers for each of your questions, and hence assign a possible mark to each question. You should end up with 12-15 marks worth of questions.

The written components of this assessment are due in hardcopy AND electronic form on **Monday 26 March** (week 10). Each pair will also present during the lesson on this day.

### Outcomes assessed

- H1.1** applies & explains an understanding of the nature & function of information technologies to a specific practical situation
- H3.1** evaluates & discusses the effect of information systems on the individual, society and the environment
- H3.2** demonstrates and explains ethical practice in the use of information systems, technologies and processes
- H4.1** proposes and justifies ways in which information systems will meet emerging needs

See marking rubric overleaf. Elements denoted by an asterisk (\*) are special criteria that clarify the differences between adequate and superior responses, above and beyond addressing the core outcomes of the assessment. Both members in the pair will receive the same mark for this assessment except in extenuating circumstances.

Legend: I.T. = information technology / information technologies  
I.S. = information system / information systems

## Marking Rubric

Level of competence demonstrated	Marks
<p>Demonstrates complex and sophisticated understanding of assigned communications issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ *exhibiting appropriate questioning of and reflection upon relevant issues</li> <li>▶ *presenting coherent discussion with clarity</li> <li>▶ *using question structure and sequence to effectively articulate and draw out knowledge</li> <li>▶ applying and explaining the nature &amp; function of I.T. in a specific practical situation</li> <li>▶ evaluating and discussing the effect of I.S. on individual, society or the environment</li> <li>▶ demonstrating and explaining ethical practice in the use of I.S., technologies and processes</li> <li>▶ proposing and justifying ways in which I.S. will meet emerging needs</li> </ul>	14-15
<p>Demonstrates basic understanding of assigned communications issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ *displaying increased accuracy, depth, knowledge, understanding and logic</li> <li>▶ *displays multi-faceted understanding of contextual effects that result from communications</li> <li>▶ applying and explaining the nature &amp; function of I.T. in a specific practical situation</li> <li>▶ evaluating and discussing the effect of I.S. on individual, society or the environment</li> <li>▶ demonstrating and explaining ethical practice in the use of I.S., technologies and processes</li> <li>▶ proposing and justifying ways in which I.S. will meet emerging needs</li> </ul>	11-13
<p>Demonstrates basic understanding of assigned communications issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ *accurately describing contextual effects that result from communications</li> <li>▶ applying and explaining the nature &amp; function of I.T. in a specific practical situation</li> <li>▶ evaluating and discussing the effect of I.S. on individual, society or the environment</li> <li>▶ demonstrating and explaining ethical practice in the use of I.S., technologies and processes</li> <li>▶ proposing and justifying ways in which I.S. will meet emerging needs</li> </ul>	7-10
<p>Demonstrates basic understanding of assigned communications issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ explaining the nature &amp; function of I.T. in a general or abstract situation</li> <li>▶ evaluating the effect of I.S. on individual, society or the environment</li> <li>▶ explaining ethical practice in the use of I.S., technologies and processes</li> <li>▶ justifying ways in which I.S. will meet emerging needs</li> </ul>	4-6
<p>Demonstrates basic understanding of assigned communications issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ identifying the nature &amp; function of I.T. in a general or abstract situation</li> <li>▶ describing the effect of I.S. on individual, society or the environment</li> <li>▶ outlining ethical practice in the use of I.S., technologies and processes</li> <li>▶ examining ways in which I.S. will meet emerging needs</li> </ul>	1-3