

**Below are Activity 1A and Activity 1B which comprises of task A and Task B.**

**Activity 1A: ICT Tools and Services**

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|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Mozilla Firefox                |
| 2. Studenet                       |
| 3. Mahara                         |
| 4. Z- drive (Personal Share)      |
| 5. Student Webmail                |
| 6. SOLS (Student Online Services) |
| 7. Moodle                         |
| 8. Turnitin                       |

# BEST SMARTPHONE OF 2012

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Initially, a smartphone is a cellular phone having the features and characteristics of a regular cellular phone that enables the users to perform various actions which are not limited to; sending and receiving short and multimedia messages, listening to music, browsing the web pages, taking pictures, shooting videos, viewing videos and video calling. Furthermore, a smartphone is a “pocket PC” as it contains a powerful computer processor and runs a complete operating system such as Android which is open source software. (Android phones-operating system, 2012)

Furthermore, the decision to buy a smartphone is dependent on the use of the smartphone. For instance, a travelling businessman would use the smartphone to check his emails regularly while a regular user may purchase the smartphone to listen to music or browse the web to check for updates and notification on social networking sites in order to stay in touch with friends and families. Furthermore, there are also people who are technology orientated and who would purchase and own a smartphone to keep themselves up to date with the technologies of this century.

The following are some of the things to look out for when buying a smartphone such as; the ability of the smartphone to access the internet or in other words, whether the phone supports WiFi as well as being compatible with the different types of connections such as GPRS, EDGE, HSDPA and 3G. One should also consider the storage capacity of the phone to enable one “to store pictures, music, videos, apps and games” (Buying a Smartphone- 7 things to remember, 2010) that one can carry around with them anywhere they go. Furthermore, one should also look for a smartphone with “enhanced messenger services” to enable them to keep in touch with friends through text and chat with a large group of people. Finally, multitasking is also a feature that one would look for in a smartphone. For instance, people look for smartphones with a Dual Core Processor as it “increases the computing power; enables faster video buffering and smooth HD playback while at the same time allows for faster web browsing”. (Buying a Smartphone- 7 things to remember, 2010)Faster processing leads to longer battery life. The features such as high image resolution, enhanced sound quality and sharp display are also important qualities that people look out for when purchasing a smartphone.

I believe that the best smartphone available in the market is Samsung Galaxy 3 and is available in white and pebble blue color. It has dimensions of 113.5 x 12.9 x 12.9mm and weighs 109 grams with TFT touch screen associated with 16M colors and a size of 240 x 400 pixels. In addition, it contains a Lithium-Ion standard battery enabling it to last 620 hours of standby time and 15 hours 30 minutes of talk time. Furthermore, the phone has a card slot which can contain a MicroSD of 32GB with internal storage capacity of 512MB ROM and 256 MB RAM and it is compatible with the different types of connections such as GPRS (32- 48Kbps), EDGE (236.8Kbps), 3G (HSDPA 900/2100). It uses the Android OS version 2.2 and poses the Central processing unit- Samsung S5p6422667Mhz. (Samsung Galaxy 3- Full phone specifications, 2012)Finally, the phone has 4G capabilities, video chat, a 4 inch display and the Android operating system with a 2.2 version which enables it to perform the multimedia functions. For instant, the 4-inch touch screen display is suitable for video chats, video playback and for surfing the internet. The super AMOLED brings images to life and the resolution makes watching movies, TV shows or playing games much more enjoyable. Hence, Samsung GALAXY 3 is more reliable than other smartphones available on the market. (Smartphones2012- smartphone reviews, 2012)

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# ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE PRODUCT OF 2012

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A virus is a computer software programme developed to interfere with the operation of a computer as it can spread from one computer to another by infecting files, duplicating itself, damaging data files and finally destroying the files. (Virus Basics-US-cert, 2012) There are various ways to prevent viruses from penetrating computers and some of which are: keeping the computers up to date with the most recent updates and antivirus tools and ensuring that the anti-virus is from a reputable supplier and is updated regularly; installing an on access scanner and configuring it to start every time the computer is switched on thus protecting the system through checking for viruses for executable files; keeping informed about recent threats; run a computer as a standard user and not an administrator and finally downloading files and opening attachment when surfing the internet. (Virus Basics-US-cert, 2012)

In addition, when buying an anti-virus software, one should be aware of such things as, the ability of the antivirus to detect corrupted files; its ability to detect when the updates are available in order to allow the user to download updates regularly; select the anti-virus software that offers protection for social networking sites and file sharing applications and finally, select the anti-virus software that offers all 3 levels of support such as the in-programme help files, the online support and the direct technical support. In addition, Reboot CD creation, Anti-phishing protection, Anti-spam and free trial are other features to look for when purchasing an Anti-virus. (How to choose the Right Anti-Virus Software- A buying guide, 2012)

The Bitdefender Antivirus plus is the best of the commercial software available however; there is also a free trial version which expires after 30 days. The antivirus software is associated with a firewall, user privacy and control, backup and antispyware that can be utilized by both home users and business people along with a PC Tuneup and a Performance Optimizer. (Bitdefender Antivirus plus 2012 Reviews and Free Trial , 2012)

The features of Bitdefender Antivirus Plus consist of a fast and free download, user-friendly interface and the ability to see problems that the antivirus has detected. The green color of the interface indicates that all is clear and the red color indicates danger in the form of a spyware, viruses, and Trojans. This particular software frequently scans for updates and many other upgrades and add-ons are available for the consumer to check for use with their system. (Bitdefender Antivirus plus 2012 Reviews and Free Trial , 2012)

Finally, the Bitdefender anti-virus Plus software offers all 3 levels of support such as the customer support section online that contain many answers to popular questions; a home and business support system, and a contact us page that includes a handy email form where one's problems go straight to a representative. (Bitdefender Antivirus plus 2012 Reviews and Free Trial , 2012)

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