We Need to Talk

Objectives

Explain how transport layer protocols and services support communications across data networks.

In this activity, you will determine whether high or low data communication delivery methods should be utilized in a situational context.

Background/Scenario

Note: This activity works best with medium-sized groups of 6 to 8 students per group.

This chapter helps you understand how transport layer protocols and services support network data communications.

Your instructor will whisper a complex message to the first student in a group. An example of the message might be "Our final exam will be given next Tuesday, February 5th, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 1151."

That student whispers the message to the next student in the group. Each group follows this process until all members of each group have heard the whispered message.

Here are the rules to follow:

- You can whisper the message only once to your neighbor.

- The message must keep moving from one person to the other with no skipping of participants. The instructor should ask a student to keep time of the full message activity from first participant to last participant stating the messages. The first or last person would mostly likely be the best one to keep this time.

- The last student will say aloud exactly what he or she heard.

Your instructor will repeat the original message so that the group can compare it to the message that was delivered by the last student in the group.

Required Resources

- Timer for the student who is keeping a record of the conversation's duration.

Reflection

1. Would the contents of this message need to be fully correct when you received them if you were depending on this message to drive your personal/business calendar, studying schedule, etc.?

2. Would the length of time taken to deliver the message be an important factor to the sender and recipient?