Task 7

You are going to read about The Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics established by CEI.

Before you read the text, think of five questions you expect to be answered when reading. Use the following chart to organize your ideas. Skim the text to find the answers. Share your ideas and results with your groupmates.

Question	Answer
Who…?	
What…?	
When…?	
Why?	
How?	

Task 8

Read and mark with different colors pieces you: agree, disagree, and partially agree. Compare and discuss your notes with your groupmates.

The Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics

1 Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people.

It is unethical to use a computer to harm another user. It is not limited to physical injury. It includes harming or corrupting other users' data or files. It is wrong to use a computer to steal someone's personal information. Manipulating or destroying files of other users is ethically wrong. It is unethical to write programs, which on execution lead to stealing, copying or gaining unauthorized access to other users' data. Being involved in practices like hacking, spamming, phishing or cyber bullying does not conform to computer ethics.

2 Thou shalt not interfere with other people's computer work.

Computer software can be used in ways that disturb other users or disrupt their work. Viruses, for example, are programs meant to harm useful computer

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programs or interfere with the normal functioning of a computer. Using malicious software to attack a computer is unethical.

3 Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's computer files.

We know it is wrong to read someone's personal letters. On the same lines, it is wrong to read someone else's email messages or files. Obtaining data from another person's private files is nothing less than breaking into someone's room. Snooping around in another person's files or reading someone else's personal messages is the invasion of his privacy.

4 Thou shalt not use a computer to steal.

Stealing sensitive information or leaking confidential information is as good as robbery. It is wrong to acquire personal information of employees from an employee database or other such information that is meant to be confidential. In addition, computers must not be used to store stolen information.

5 Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness.

Spread of information has become viral today. This also means that false news or rumors can spread speedily through social networking sites or emails. Being involved in the circulation of incorrect information is unethical. Mails and pop-ups are commonly used to spread the wrong information or give false alerts with the only intent of selling products. Direct or indirect involvement in the circulation of false information is ethically wrong. Giving wrong information can hurt other parties or organizations that are affected by that particular theme.

6 Thou shalt not copy or use proprietary software for which you have not paid (without permission).

Like any other artistic or literary work, software is copyrighted. A piece of code is the original work of the individual who created it. It is copyrighted in his/her name. In case of a developer writing software for the organization she/he works for, the organization holds the copyright for it. Copyright holds true unless its creators announce it is not. Obtaining illegal copies of copyrighted software is unethical and also encourages others to make copies illegally.

7 Thou shalt not use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation.

Multi-user systems have user specific passwords. Breaking into some other user's password, thus intruding his/her private space is unethical. Accessing data that you are not authorized to access or gaining access to another user's computer without her/his permission is not ethical.

8 Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output.

Programs developed by a software developer are her/his property. If he is working with an organization, they are the organization's property. Copying them and propagating them in one's own name is unethical. This applies to any

creative work, program or design. Establishing ownership on a work which is not yours is ethically wrong.

9 Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you are writing or the system you are designing.

Looking at the social consequences that a program can have, describes a broader perspective of looking at technology. A computer software on release, reaches millions. Software like video games and animations or educational software can have a social impact on their users. When working on animation films or designing video games, for example, it is the programmer's responsibility to understand his/her target audience/users and the effect it may have on them. Software developers should consider the influence their code can have on the society at large.

10 Thou shalt always use a computer in ways that ensure consideration and respect for other humans.

The communication etiquette we follow in the real world applies to communication over computers as well. One should not intrude others' private space, use abusive language, make false statements or pass irresponsible remarks about others. One should be courteous while communicating over the web and should respect others' time and resources.

Task 9

Mark the following sentences as True or False. Find in the text the lines/ paragraphs proving your choices.

1.	You must not use the computer in ways that may harm other people.	*True*	*False*
2.	Manipulating or destroying files is ethically wrong.	*True*	*False*
3.	You may use computer technology to cause interference in other users' work if it's important.	*True*	*False*
4.	Spying on another person's digital data is unethical.	*True*	*False*
5.	Contributing to the spread of fake information conforms to computer ethics.	*True*	*False*
6.	You should refrain from copying software or buying pirated copies.	*True*	*False*