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# 220-301

**CompTIA**

*A+ Core Hardware*

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**Question: 1**

What should you do if the fan in the power supply stops working?

- A. Replace the fan.
- B. Replace the case.
- C. Lubricate the fan.
- D. Replace the bearing
- E. Replace the power supply.

**Answer: E**

**Explanation:**

The whole power supplier should be replaced. PC technicians should not try to repair power supplies.

**Question: 2**

What does an error during POST on a PC mean? (Choose two)

- A. BIOS require resetting.
- B. Hardware failure.
- C. HIMEM.SYS is missing or faulty.
- D. The drivers for the device are incorrect.
- E. The Windows file system is generating an error.

**Answer: A, B**

**Explanation:**

- A. POST errors could disappear after a reset of the BIOS.
- B. Errors during POST are hardware-related.

**Incorrect Answers**

- C. Missing files or incorrect files would not generate POST errors.
- D. Drivers are software-related. BIOS handles hardware.
- E. POST errors are not affected by the operating systems.

**Question: 3**

You are a technician at Company. Your newly appointed Company trainee wants to know which are the correct combinations of COM ports and IRQs on a PC. What would your reply be? (Choose two)

- A. COM1 and COM2, IRQ5
- B. COM3 and COM4, IRQ2
- C. COM1 and COM3, IRQ4
- D. COM1 and COM3, IRQ3
- E. COM2 and COM4, IRQ3

**Answer: C, E**

**Explanation:**

COM1 and COM3 use IRQ4.  
COM2 and COM4 use IRQ3.

**Question: 4**

You are the technician at Company. You want to configure the hard disk in the BIOS. Where does BIOS save this setting?

- A. CPU
- B. CMOS
- C. Memory
- D. Hard Drive

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

The BIOS settings are stored in the CMOS memory.

**Question: 5**

You are a trainee at Company. You are told to connect a bootable hard drive to a PC. Which connector on the IDE cable should you use?

- A. The first connector of the primary IDE controller.
- B. The second connector of the primary IDE controller.
- C. The third connector of the primary IDE controller.
- D. Either the first or the second connector of the primary IDE controller.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The bootable device is not decided by the location on the IDE connector.

The active partition will be the bootable drive. The active partition is configurable from within the OS.

**Question: 6**

You are a technician at Company. Your newly appointed Company trainee wants to know how to identify an ATA/33 IDE cable from an ATA/66 IDE cable. What would your reply be?

- A. Cable color
- B. Cable pin out
- C. Twists in the cable
- D. Number of wires

**Answer: D**

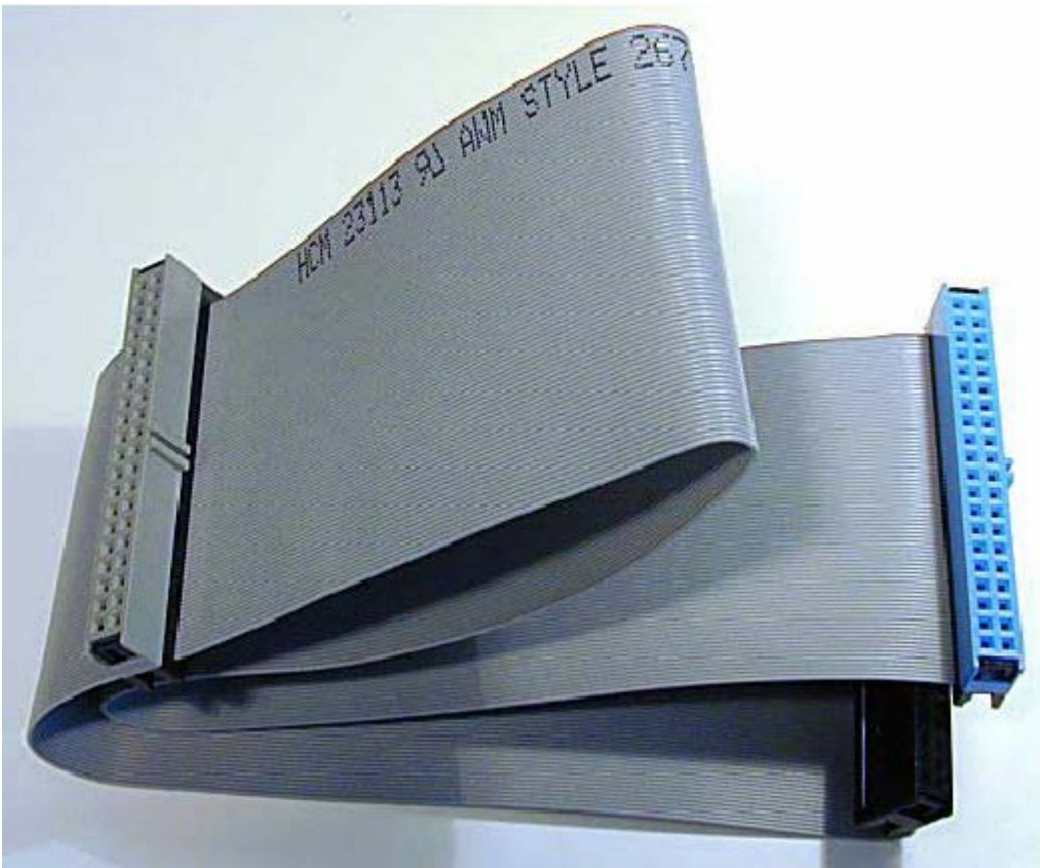
**Explanation:**

The ATA/33 cable has 40 wires, while the ATA/66 cable has 80 wires. The best way to distinguish between the cables is simply to count the wires

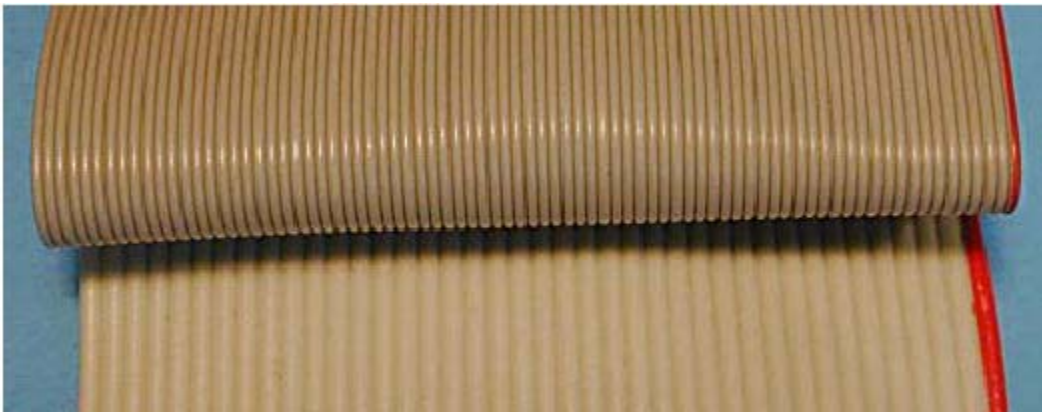
**Note.**

Ultra ATA/66 removes bottlenecks associated with data transfers, especially during sequential operations. Ultra ATA/66 requires a special 40-pin, 80-conductor cable that reduces noise bleed-over and improves signal integrity by providing 40 additional ground lines between each of the standard 40-pin ATA signal lines and ground lines.

ATA/66 cable with 80 wires.



ATA/33 cable with 40 wires.



#### Incorrect Answers

- A. There is no standard for coloring the cables..
- B. Both the ATA/33 cable and the ATA/66 cable use 40-pins. This enables ATA/33 and ATA/66 devices can coexists on the same cable. However, since both cables have the same number of pins they cannot easily be distinguished by pins.
- C. There are no twists in the cable.

#### Question: 7

The CEO at Company wants to attach a digital video camera to her PC.

Which computer port should she use?

- A. USB
- B. RS-232
- C. IEEE 1284
- D. IEEE 1394

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Digital video cameras typically use the firewire port, also known as the IEEE 1394 standard. IEEE 1394 is a faster interface than the USB, RS-232 (serial), and IEEE 1284 (parallel) interfaces.

**Question: 8**

Which of the following are managed by the system board BIOS?

- A. NIC (Network Interface Card)
- B. Printers
- C. Modems
- D. ATA (IDE)

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

IDE ATA settings are included BIOS.

**Incorrect Answers**

Network adapters, printers, and modems are not configured in BIOS.

**Question: 9**

A customer has a motherboard that accepts the 5 pin DIN keyboard connector. What type of motherboard could the customer have? (Choose two)

- A. AT
- B. XT
- C. LT
- D. ATX

There is no standard for coloring the cables..

**Answer: A, B**

**Explanation:**

AT and XT can supply the 5-pin DIN keyboard connector.

**Question: 10**

You are a technician at Company. Your newly appointed Company trainee has a floppy drive cable. She wants to know what is the drive letter assigned to the drive after the twist. What would your reply be?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The floppy drive connected after the twist will be assigned the letter A.

**Incorrect Answers**

**B.** The floppy drive connected **before** the twist will be assigned the letter B.

**C, D.** The letters C and D cannot be assigned to diskette drive. They are used for mass storage devices such as hard drives and CD-ROMs.

**Question: 11**

Which of the following onboard devices on a motherboard drive can be updated through software?

- A. Chip set
- B. Data bus
- C. System BIOS
- D. IDE controller

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The System BIOS can be updated with a Flash BIOS upgrade program usually resident on a diskette.

**Question: 12**

Company has a PC with a SCSI chain that currently supports six hard drives, a DVD-ROM drive and a CD-RW drive. What is unique about each device on the chain?

- A. I/O
- B. LUN
- C. Identification
- D. Master or Slave

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The identification of each device on the SCSI chain must be unique.

A simple SCSI chain works like a network, and, like a network, each device requires its own unique address. A SCSI device can have any ID number in a range recognized by the host adapter, as long as no other device on the same chain has been set to the same number.

**Incorrect Answers**

**A.** Unique I/O addresses are not required by SCSI devices.

**B.** It is possible to have a single SCSI ID support more than one device. Logical unit numbers (LUNs) can be used to provide a unique identifier for up to seven subunits per ID number.

This is not the best answer however.

**D.** Master and slave settings are used by IDE devices, not by SCSI devices.

**Question: 13**

On a PC, where would you store the firewall?

- A. RAM
- B. CPU
- C. Hard disk





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