

Research Problems

1. You're an IS professional, and your boss has asked you to prepare a briefing for senior staff on the comparative advantages and disadvantages of three competing secondary storage technologies: magnetic hard disk drives, solid-state drives using single-level cell flash memory, and solid-state drives using multilevel cell flash memory. Search the digital libraries and technology Web sites listed in this chapter for source material to help you prepare the briefing. Which sites provide the most useful information? Which sites enable you to find useful information easily? Which sites have the most advertising? Which sites seem to contain biased information and what is the nature of the bias?
2. Read a few dozen job listings at <http://itjobs.computerworld.com> or a similar site. Which jobs (and how many) require a broad knowledge of computer technology? At what level are these jobs? Try searching the listings based on a few specific keywords, such as *architect*, *developer*, and *network*. Examine the companies that are hiring and where their job postings show up in search results. Can you draw any conclusions about how the listings are ordered?