

Introduction to the South Shore Memory Project's Server

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1. What is a server?

A computer or a piece of software (but usually both) that stores information and responds to requests from clients.

2. What is a client?

Software that sends a request for service to a server. A Web client called a "browser" (Netscape Navigator is an example) sends requests for information to Web servers.

3. What is UNIX?

UNIX is an operating system. Operating systems run on computers. They enable your software to talk to your hardware. UNIX is a common operating system on the Internet, but not too common on personal computers at home and in schools.

4. What is www.ozarkhistory.com?

This is the name of a computer. The computer is located in Logan, Utah. This is the computer that runs our very own Web server for the South Shore Memory Project.

5. How do we talk to this computer that's so far away?

We talk to [ozarkhistory.com](http://www.ozarkhistory.com) using special client software. One program lets us transfer files to and from [ozarkhistory.com](http://www.ozarkhistory.com) and another program lets us run processes on [ozarkhistory.com](http://www.ozarkhistory.com). Today we are going to learn how to 'talk' to [ozarkhistory.com](http://www.ozarkhistory.com) using a program called **TELNET**.

6. What is a system administrator?

A system administrator is an individual in charge of a computer system. The system might consist of one computer or many computers. The system administrator, or 'sys admin' for short, is the only person who can do important maintenance tasks on the system because s/he is the only who knows the secret password to get *into* the system.

Let's Have Some Fun!

There are some really kewl UNIX commands that help you learn information about people and computers. CAUTION: Remember to respect other individual's privacy and their computers when you work online.

1. Learning how to connect to ozarkhistory.com

TELNET to ozarkhistory.com

USERID is **ozarkhistory**

PASSWORD is **rarvab**

2. What is today's date?

Try typing the command **date** and see what happens.

3. Are you alive?

~~Let's see if the computer at the Whitehouse is alive and well. Type the command **ping whitehouse.gov** and press ENTER. Now stop the process by pressing **CTRL Z**~~
Ping is a little program that runs on UNIX computers. It's like a radar signal that goes out and bounces off another computer. If the other computer is alive, it bounces back.

4. How do I get from here to there?

Ever wonder how data gets from our computer in Logan, Utah to the Whitehouse? Probably not, but here's how you can find out! Type the command **traceroute whitehouse.gov** and press ENTER. Try **traceroute disney.com**

5. Who's working today?

You can find out who is on a computer by using the **finger** command. There's a computer out there called xmission.com. To find out who is logged in and working on that computer, type **finger @xmission.com**

6. Who is xmission.com?

You can find out who is running the show over at xmission.com by typing in the command **whois xmission.com**

7. How can I keep the pages from scrolling by so fast?

On a UNIX computer there is a program that helps you view data one page at a time called MORE. Try typing in **whois xmission.com |more** and press ENTER. Press the space bar to page down.

8. Can I telnet anywhere else in the world?

Sure! You can connect to lots of computers without knowing a password. Try telneting to a library. Type **telnet pac.carl.org** . Choose PAC and next choose vt100 terminal. Explore around and see what you can find!