

Game 10 – Computer Repair

A technician will fix four different computers—a Medion, a Polywell, a Redfox and a Toshiba—one at a time, exactly once. Each of these four computers has a different problem to be fixed than any others—hard drive, network, operating system, or software. The repair of the computers is consistent with the following conditions:

If the Toshiba has a software problem, then the Medion has an operating system problem.

If the Polywell has a software problem, then the Redfox has a network problem.

The computer with the software problem is fixed immediately after the Medion and immediately before the Redfox.

The computer with the operating system problem is not the last computer repaired.

- Which one of the following could be a complete and accurate list of the computers and their respective problems, from first to last?
 - Medion: operating system; Polywell: software; Redfox: network; Toshiba: hard drive
 - Redfox: operating system; Polywell: hard drive; Toshiba: software; Medion: network
 - Polywell: hard drive; Medion: network; Toshiba: software; Redfox: operating system
 - Redfox: operating system; Toshiba: software; Medion: hard drive; Polywell: network
 - Medion: software; Toshiba: operating system; Redfox: hard drive; Polywell: network
- If the Toshiba is the second computer fixed, each of the following could be true EXCEPT
 - The Toshiba has the hard drive problem.
 - The Polywell has the network problem.
 - The Toshiba has the software problem.
 - The Polywell has the hard drive problem.
 - The Redfox has the hard drive problem.
- Which one of the following could be true?
 - The Medion is fixed immediately after the computer with the software problem.
 - The computer with the software problem is fixed immediately after the Toshiba.
 - The Toshiba is fixed immediately after the computer with the hard drive problem.
 - The Polywell is fixed immediately after the computer with the hard drive problem.
 - The computer with the network problem is fixed immediately before the Redfox.
- The computer with the operating system problem CANNOT be fixed
 - immediately after the Polywell
 - immediately before the Polywell
 - immediately after the Redfox
 - immediately before the Toshiba
 - immediately before the Medion
- If the Redfox is the third computer fixed, which one of the following could be true?
 - The Medion has the hard drive problem.
 - The Redfox has the hard drive problem.
 - The computer with the software problem is last.
 - The computer with the operating system problem is third.
 - The computer with the hard drive problem is second.

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1. A
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. B

This is a game of both orders and qualities, and with many of these you will know proximate elements and qualities but not necessarily the place. The third rule is key to solving this game because you can deduce a block on the basis of it. The Medion is before a computer with a software problem, which is before the Redfox. (You should also be able to deduce that neither the Medion nor the Redfox has the software problem)

For Question 1, all of the other choices violate a rule—plug them out and see for yourself. The second question is based on the third rule—you can deduce that the Medion is fixed first and the Redfox third because there is nowhere else the three elements set out in that rule can go as a block. Question 3, like the first question, has four answers that lead to inferences which break a rule, and again, you are advised to plug them out if you don't see it. Remember to try and develop "visualizing skills."

On Question 4, if the computer with the operating system problem comes directly after the Redfox, there is no place it can go under the first and fourth rules. Likewise on Question 5, either the Polywell or Toshiba must have the software problem, and based on the deductions from either of these options, four of the choices are impossible.