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## CHAPTER 1

### *Introduction*

#### *Solutions to Review Questions and Exercises*

##### Review Questions

1. The five components of a data communication system are the *sender*, *receiver*, *transmission medium*, *message*, and *protocol*.
2. The advantages of distributed processing are *security*, *access to distributed databases*, *collaborative processing*, and *faster problem solving*.
3. The three criteria are *performance*, *reliability*, and *security*.
4. Advantages of a multipoint over a point-to-point configuration (type of connection) include *ease of installation* and *low cost*.
5. Line configurations (or types of connections) are *point-to-point* and *multipoint*.
6. We can divide line configuration in two broad categories:
  - a. *Point-to-point: mesh, star, and ring.*
  - b. *Multipoint: bus*
7. In *half-duplex transmission*, only one entity can send at a time; in a *full-duplex transmission*, both entities can send at the same time.
8. We give an advantage for each of four network topologies:
  - a. *Mesh*: secure
  - b. *Bus*: easy installation
  - c. *Star*: robust
  - d. *Ring*: easy fault isolation
9. The number of cables for each type of network is:
  - a. *Mesh*:  $n(n-1)/2$
  - b. *Star*:  $n$
  - c. *Ring*:  $n-1$
  - d. *Bus*: one backbone and  $n$  drop lines
10. The general factors are *size*, *distances* (covered by the network), *structure*, and *ownership*.

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