Unit 8 Critical Thinking Questions

1. **What are some common public relation skills? How might these be helpful when working in cybersecurity? Describe a scenario (having to do with cybersecurity in some way) where having good public relation and communication skills would be essential.**

- Honesty
- The ability to work with other people
- Adaptable to change

These skills are useful to have when in the field of Cybersecurity because you're most likely going to be working with other people. Because of that, you'll need to be able to actually work with them well to get things done, and honesty helps a lot as well. Things are always changing in Cybersecurity, as technology is always all over the place. Being able to handle change often is a very good thing to have. All of these skills in the end help, for when you are doing projects (such as securing a company's system or trying to fix a system after some sort of security problem).

2. **Imagine that you have been asked to participate as part of a team that will be giving a presentation at various high schools for career day. The presentation will give an overview of cybersecurity, including how to obtain a job in the field and what it is like to work in cybersecurity. You have been asked to create the portion of the presentation that covers pertinent cybersecurity vocabulary. Come up with a list of at least 10 terms that you feel are vital to know and understand when working in cybersecurity. Offer a definition for each word and a brief explanation at the end of your list that summarizes why you chose these words.**

Cybersecurity - the practice of defending computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from malicious attacks.

VPN (Virtual Private Network) – encrypted connection over the Internet from a device to a network.

Cloud – storing and accessing data and programs over the internet instead of your computer's hard drive.

Firewall – a network security device that monitors and controls ingoing and outgoing network traffic.

IP Address – a unique address that identifies a device on the internet. It's like the phone number of your device.

Malware – programs that are developed to steal data and damage or destroy computers/ computer systems.

Ransomware – encrypts a victim's files, and a ransom must be paid for everything to be restored back to normal.

Virus – malicious code or program written to alter the way a computer operates.

Encryption – process of encoding data.

Social Engineering – a technique used to manipulate and deceive people to gain sensitive and private information.

I chose these terms, because these are some of the most common terms you would come across in the field of cybersecurity.

3. **What are some things you could do now that would increase your "cyber brand" and hiring potential? What personal qualities, skills, and work behaviors are helpful in finding and maintaining a successful career in cybersecurity, both as a leader and a team member?**
The best thing I could do is do more things to gain more experience. The more experience I gain and put on my resume shows that I know my stuff, and that I care about what I am doing. To maintain a successful career in this field, some of the skills you should have include being honest, being able to work with other people, adaptable to sudden change, and attention to detail.

4. **Examine and explain at least one possible benefit and one possible drawback (personal, professional, societal, etc.) for the gap between the number of cybersecurity professionals and the number of available jobs in the cybersecurity sector.**
There is a high-demand for people in the Cybersecurity field. This means that there are less people that have jobs than the amount of jobs available. This is good because if you are good in this field, you'll have a higher chance of getting this kind of job as you are needed. However this can also be a bad thing, because that means there are not enough people in the field altogether, when we need more people securing things around the world.

5. **Why is it important to be well-versed in the art of mind sports when working in cybersecurity? Propose your own competitive mind sport and explain how it relates to potential careers in cybersecurity. Be as specific as possible with your answer.**
It is important because they prepare you to quickly solve unknown challenges, and there are **A LOT** of unknown challenges in the field of cybersecurity. Any mind sport that makes you think outside the box would help you in this field, as thinking outside of the box is a good thing to be able to do in this field.