

Based on Dunn (2009), explain how your computer's operating system and various installed programs might slow down your computer.

A computer can slow down from various reasons; such as a virus, malware attacks the operating system, installing or downloading files. For your pc to run at a normal speed sometimes you might have to delete some files and maintain maintenance and without proper maintenance your computer will run slow. If you choose to delete some unwanted files that will also clean the drive on your computer and enable speed. Looking at the memory we know that it can dump files, programs files, temporary internet, and downloaded program files you can increase optimization by deleting what you don't need. If you do not start up your files on the computer correctly it can also cause it to run slow. If your computer has too many windows open that would slow down the speed of your computer.

Response 2

During normal operation a computer creates temporary files each time it opens a program or file. When it is finished, these temporary files are still there. Internet Explorer also creates temporary internet files when you surf the web. When you open a large word document, as you edit this document, save it, then close it, it is saved to the hard drive. When you reopen this file, edit, and save it again, it is placed in a different location on the hard drive. This continues each time you open this file. This is called fragmentation. Each time you reopen this file, the operating system and program have to search and find each piece of this file to complete the document. The larger the document the slower the process. Over time these files will bog down the operating system making it slow and sluggish when opening files, surfing the internet, and running programs.

Preventive maintenance steps for these situations are defragmenting the hard drive, deleting temporary files and folders, and deleting internet browsing history and files. Doing this on a periodic basis is one of the key steps to keeping your operating system running smooth. These tasks can be scheduled to run while you sleep, making it that much easier to maintain.

When we install programs on a computer that is supposed to be compatible with the operating system, we often find that it is not. The key to this problem are the drivers. When the program was designed it had the latest drivers and worked with that 'tested' version of the operating system. Well, we have since updated this operating system several times but rarely update our software programs or hardware drivers. Incorrect drivers are the biggest hardware problem when it comes to Windows, IMOPO (In My Own Professional Opinion). Windows will let you know this as soon as you finish the installation by displaying a blue screen with white text scrolling down, then freezing up the computer. All you remember seeing at the bottom of the screen are numbers moving fast and the words 'memory dump'. Ahh, The Blue Screen of Death!