

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A – COMPUTER ETHICS

The *Ten Commandments for Computer Ethics* are given below:

- 1) Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people.
- 2) Thou shalt not interfere with other people's computer work.
- 3) Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's computer files.
- 4) Thou shalt not use a computer to steal.
- 5) Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness.
- 6) Thou shalt not copy or use proprietary software for which you have not paid (without permission).
- 7) Thou shalt not use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation.
- 8) Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output.
- 9) Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you are writing or the system you are designing.
- 10) Thou shalt always use a computer in ways that ensure consideration and respect for your fellow humans.

Pick one of the commandments, and write a short essay (two paragraphs) about it. In the first paragraph explain what the commandment means. In the second paragraph, give an example of an action which violates the commandment. The web site

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ten_Commandments_of_Computer_Ethics

may be of use.