Computing Scavenger Hunt

Due at the beginning of class on Monday, Aug 28th

Points Earned: ______________  Scaled out of 10: _______________

For full credit on this assignment, you need to correctly complete at least 100 of the 125 possible points. If you do not complete 100 points correctly, your grade will be the number of points completed out of 100. If you complete more than 100 points correctly, good for you (but you will not be getting any extra credit). Your grade on this assignment will be scaled to be out of 10 points and entered into Canvas. All of the answers can be discovered around campus, in your textbook (e.g., Section 1.4), or through some web searches online. Expect this assignment to take you 30-90 minutes (depending how much energy you want to put into it!) You can do this assignment with one friend/peer; if yes, both names should be included on the answer sheet. Any student who receives 125 points will be put into a raffle for two CS@Mines t-shirts.

1. (5 points) According to the textbook, who is generally regarded as the first computer programmer?

2. (3 points) ...and what was the name of the device that he/she wrote programs for?

3. (5 points) Friday (Aug 25th) from 4pm to 7pm, the Mines ACM Student Chapter will be at (or was at) the Celebration of Mines. What is the name of the model of computer that they used for mailing list signup?

4. (3 points) …how much RAM does it have?

5. (3 points) “ACM”, as in the “Mines ACM Student Chapter” or the “ACM ICPC”, stands for what?

6. (6 points) Charles Babbage had a woven portrait of Joseph Jacquard in his home. How many punched cards were used to make this portrait?

7. (6 points) What was the name of the Hungarian mathematician who could divide 8 digit numbers in his head by the age of 6?
8. (5 points) The first microcomputer was a kit put together by Ed Roberts using Intel’s 8080 processor. This computer was called…

9. (5 points) The first FORTRAN compiler was available in April of what year?

10. (8 points) Name all the kinds of non-volatile storage displayed at the computing history showcase in the east side of the CTLM building.

11. (5 points) What version of NeXTSTEP is displayed next to the NeXTcube in the CTLM building?

12. (5 points) How much would the Colby Systems Walkmac SE-30 have cost today?

13. (5 points) Arthur Luehrmann says that a BASIC interpreter plus all the programs in the Dartmouth library ready to run on your home computer might cost how much money?

14. (6 points) The early general-purpose computer used by the British to crack the German Enigma code was called what?

15. (5 points) Which of the following was the primary innovation of the Von Neumann architecture?
   a. Use of transistors instead of vacuum tubes
   b. Ability to perform floating-point (real number) calculations
   c. Storage of program instructions in the internal memory unit
   d. Purely electronic design, no mechanical parts for computation

16. (4 points) The first computer built for sale was called what?
17. (2 points) (True or false) Microcomputers were developed in the mid-1970s.

18. (5 points) Herman Hollerith developed machines while working for the U.S. Census Bureau in the late 1800s. Using these machines, how long did it take the 1890 census to be completed?

19. (6 points) What is the name of the Linux lab located at BB 136?

20. (5 points) Who led the team that wrote the “Mosaic” software?

21. (3 points) …and what did “Mosaic” do?

22. (5 points) In reference to the “BASIC Programing Language”, what does “BASIC” stand for?

23. (3 points) According to the “Jargon File”, the TEO text editor was a text editor developed at MIT and modified by ____________.

24. (2 points) … and what did TEO originally stand for?

25. (5 points) Cutting a second write enabler notch in a 5 ¼” floppy disk so that both sides could be used independently creates a disk that was commonly referred to as a ________ disk.

26. (3 points) Who wrote “Integer BASIC”? 

27. (3 points) Who founded the Free Software Foundation?

28. (4 points) Who has access to the “Isengard” server at Mines?