A gentle introduction to 441 course work...

(1) Define *information technology* in, at most, a few paragraphs.

(2) Visit the GMU patriotweb web site (with which you may already be somewhat familiar). Describe three good things about the site, e.g., things it does well, makes it easy to do, etc. Describe three bad things about the site, e.g., things it does poorly, makes hard or awkward to to.

(3) You are the lucky winner of the ‘blue sky’ prize that lets you design a new Internet-based service (or family of services). Describe what new service you would like to have. What would it do? who would it be available to? how widespread a deployment?

(4) PHB has discovered a storeroom full of Pentium-II machines each with a 20-Gbyte hard disk, 128 Mb RAM, and one Ethernet card. He asks you to implement the company’s new e-commerce web site, expected to attract tens of thousands of customers per month, using as few of these machines as possible. What do you tell him?