Trojan horses, viruses, worms, rabbits—malware is ever-present in the news and on actual computer systems. Despite this, computer systems networked to the Internet are used for many very important functions, even by home users, such as online banking, medical records, political dissent, grading students’ homework, and so forth.

1. Please find two incidents involving malware, from the news or in web postings, and describe the effects of the attack. Say whether it affected confidentiality, integrity, availability, or some combination of these. How was the malware triggered?

2. How many systems were believed to be infected? If it targeted specific classes of systems (for example, Windows-based systems or government systems), please say so.

3. How was the malware detected and eliminated? Were any preventative steps taken to reduce the possibility of the attack recurring?

4. If the cost of the attack was given, please say what it was, and how the loss affected the targets of the attack. If not, what do you think the cost was? Remember, “cost” is not just money—it’s also people’s time, corporate (and individual) reputation, and loss of business.