Task A

List below the types of malware anti-virus software could protect against.

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| Trojans, Worms, Ransomware, Adware, Spyware, Viruses |

Task B

Explain how anti-virus detects and removes viruses.

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| The user can run a scan to check for viruses on the computer. There are different types of scans: full scan, scheduled scan or scan a specific file, folder or device (i.e. USB flash drive).  Once a virus has been detected, it notifies the user and it could place the virus in a quarantine folder which will isolate the virus to stop it infecting other parts of the computer. The user can then decide what to do with the virus by going into the quarantine folder. |

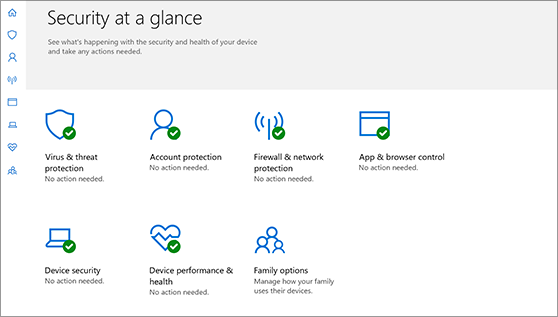
Task C

Identify the benefits and drawbacks of using anti-virus software.

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| Benefits | Drawbacks |
| The perform its primary role which is to detect and prevent viruses infecting your computer. | Running anti-virus software in the background can use a lot of resources such as memory and hard drive space which can slow the computer down, especially if a scan is being performed. |
| Capable of additional tasks such as protecting against spyware to keep secure information such as bank details secure. | No complete protection. This can depend on choice. If it’s free version then it might only give you a basic level of protection and not recognise certain threats. |
| Additional protection from spam and surfing the internet. | Needs to be updated, if not then it could lead to security holes appearing because the software cannot perform to its full capability. |
| Most include a firewall feature which works well with anti-virus because it can monitor any incoming traffic before it joins the private network. | Lack of customer support which is more apparent with free versions. |
| Cost effective – Although the subscription fee might be high, in some cases, you can’t put a price on the data you hold. | Limited detection techniques. This can depend on the one used, if it’s a free version then it might be able to detect more sophisticated types of malware. |

Task D

Windows provides an in-built anti-virus program called Windows Defender



Use the internet to find out the pros and cons to using Windows Defender as the computers anti-virus software.

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| Advantages include:   * It’s free and comes part of the Windows package. * It doesn’t take up as much as memory space as others and can run in the background without having a significant impact on performance. * User friendly - easy to set up and manage. * Updates do not cause any disruption to the entire system.   Disadvantages include:   * It’s not up-to-date in recognising new viruses. * Limitations when it comes to configuring the way the software works. * Some features such as a SmartScreen filter can interfere with programs being installed on the client side if the admin has sets to block server side.   Others can be accepted within reason. |

Task E

Describe the purpose of anti-virus software

Before you write your description, look at the answer builder tool underneath the help you.

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| Description:  Anti-virus is the ability to detect malware before it infects the computer. Anti-virus software works by running a scan of the computer and if it detects a virus then it will be put into a quarantine folder and the user will be alerted of this threat. It can also provide extra protection when browsing the internet or detecting spam in emails. | Example: |
| Answer builder:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | ⚫ | ⚫⚫ | ⚫⚫⚫ | | What does anti-virus mean? | How does anti-virus work? | Identify some of the benefits to using anti-virus software. | | |