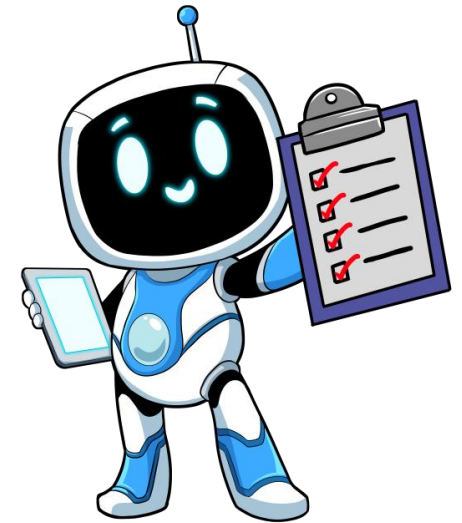


BELL RINGER

Warm up your A+ networking memory.

5 minutes. Write your answers in your notebook before the bell.

- 1 What is the difference between TCP (Transmission Control Protocol) and UDP at a high level?
- 2 An IP (Internet Protocol) address identifies what?
- 3 True or false: a switch and a router do the same job.



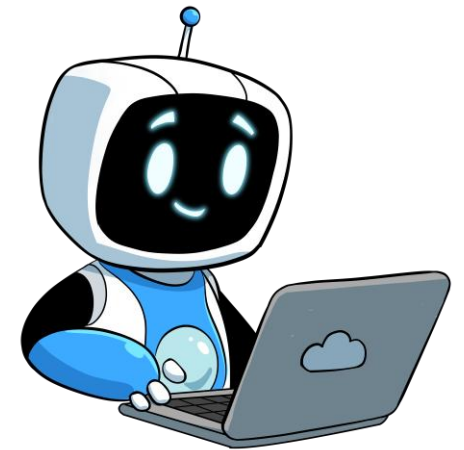
OSI Model

Fundamentals

Network+ (N10-009) · Objective 1.1

OSI = Open Systems Interconnection. The 7-layer framework every Net+ tech learns by heart.

50 minutes · One class period



WHY THIS MATTERS

In a real NOC, the first question is always "what layer?"

NOC = network operations center. The team that watches networks 24/7.

Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Layer 7
Cable unplugged	Switch port misconfigured	Wrong subnet	Web app down

The payoff

Students who memorize the 7 OSI layers cold can troubleshoot like a senior tech on day one of their first networking job. Once you know the layer, you know which tool to grab and which team to escalate to.

What you'll know in 50 minutes.

1. The 7 layers in order, top to bottom and bottom to top
2. The PDU (protocol data unit) at each layer: bits, frame, packet, segment, data
3. Which devices and protocols live at which layer (switch=L2, router=L3, etc.)
4. How to use OSI as a checklist when something breaks
5. A mnemonic so you never lose the order again

Section 1

The 7 layers

Top to bottom. Cable to app.

LAYER 7

Application

The layer you actually see and touch.

Analogy

Writing a letter. You are the user. Your words are the message.

PDU (protocol data unit)

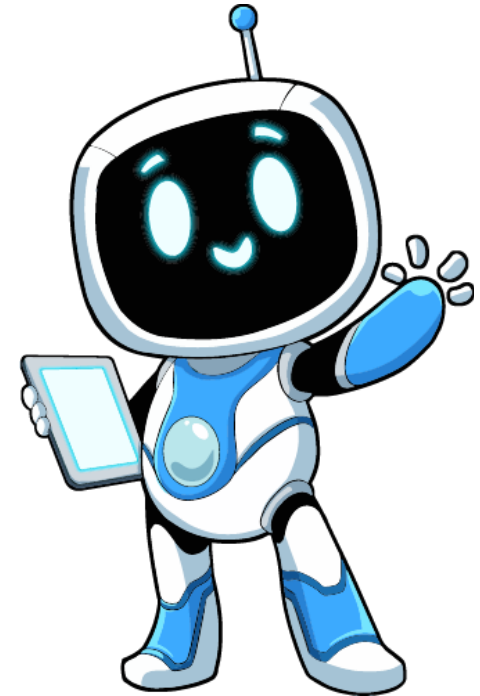
Data

Common protocols

HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), HTTPS, FTP, SMTP, DNS

Real-world example

Web browser, email client (Outlook, Gmail), file transfer app



Presentation

Translation and encryption between app and network.

Analogy

Translating the letter into a language the recipient speaks. Or sealing it in code.

PDU (protocol data unit)

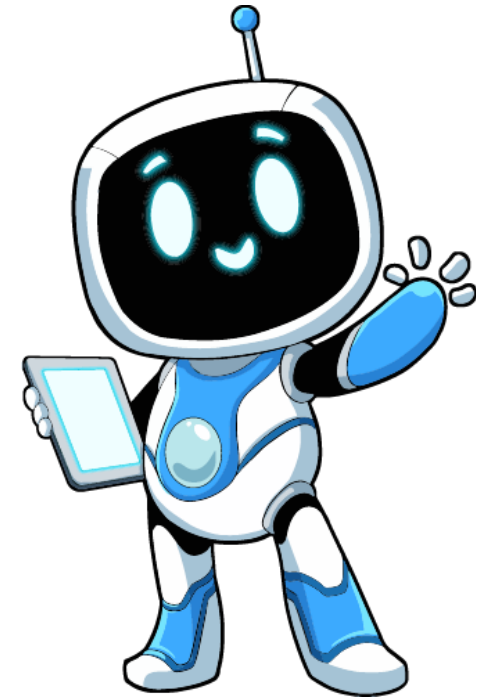
Data

Common protocols

TLS (Transport Layer Security), SSL (older version of TLS), JPEG, ASCII

Real-world example

HTTPS encryption, image file format conversion



Session

Starts, manages, and ends conversations between devices.

Analogy

A phone call. The ring, the "hello," the conversation, the "goodbye," the hang-up.

PDU (protocol data unit)

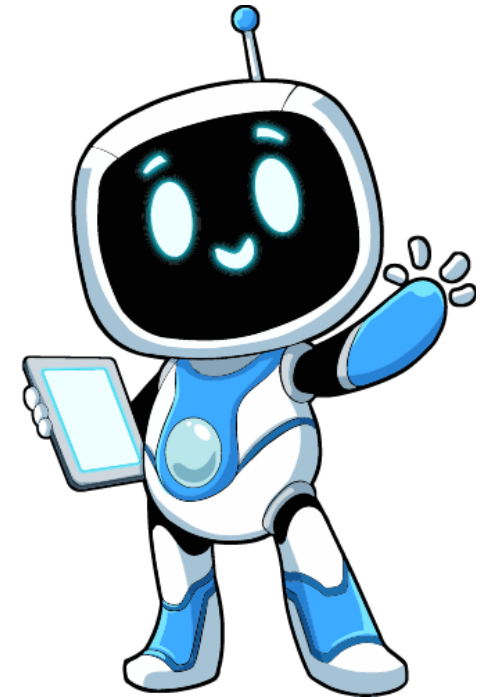
Data

Common protocols

NetBIOS, RPC (Remote Procedure Call)

Real-world example

A login session staying alive while you click around an app



Transport

Reliable delivery and port numbers.

Analogy

The post office. They guarantee delivery and know which mailbox to drop the letter in.

PDU (protocol data unit)

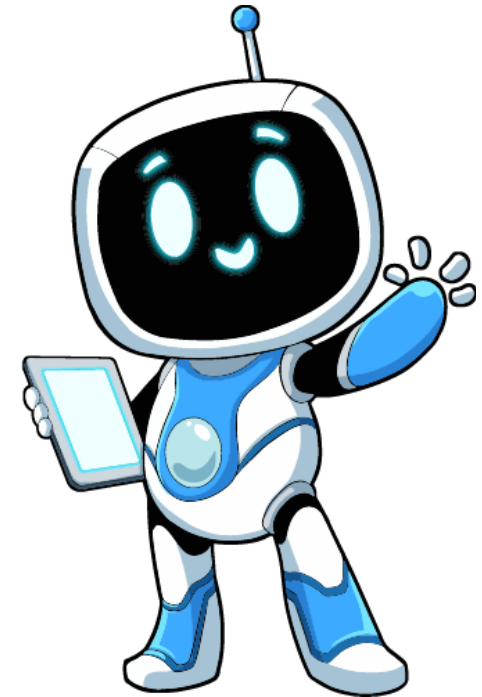
Segment (TCP) or Datagram (UDP (User Datagram Protocol))

Common protocols

TCP (Transmission Control Protocol), UDP (User Datagram Protocol)

Real-world example

Port 443 carries HTTPS web traffic. Port 53 carries DNS lookups.



Network

Logical addressing and routing between networks.

Analogy

The street address on an envelope. Routers read it to decide which truck and which road.

PDU (protocol data unit)

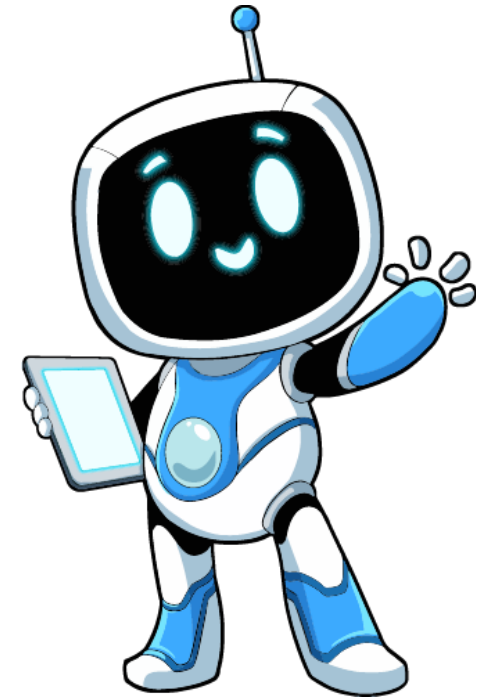
Packet

Common protocols

IP (Internet Protocol), ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol, behind ping)

Real-world example

A router forwards a packet from your office network to Google by reading its IP address.



Data Link

Frames and MAC (media access control) addresses inside one local network.

Analogy

The mail carrier on your street, who knows exactly which house each letter goes to.

PDU (protocol data unit)

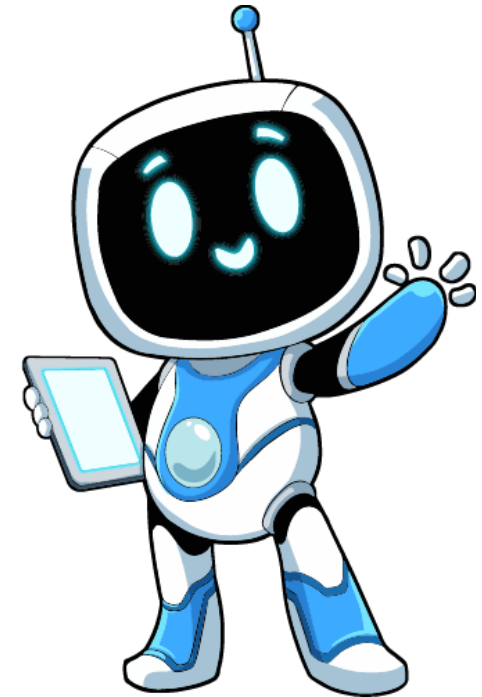
Frame

Common protocols

Ethernet, ARP (Address Resolution Protocol)

Real-world example

A switch forwards a frame to the right computer by reading its MAC (media access control) address.



Physical

Bits on a wire. Signal in the air.

Analogy

The road the mail truck drives on. The wire the bits run through.

PDU (protocol data unit)

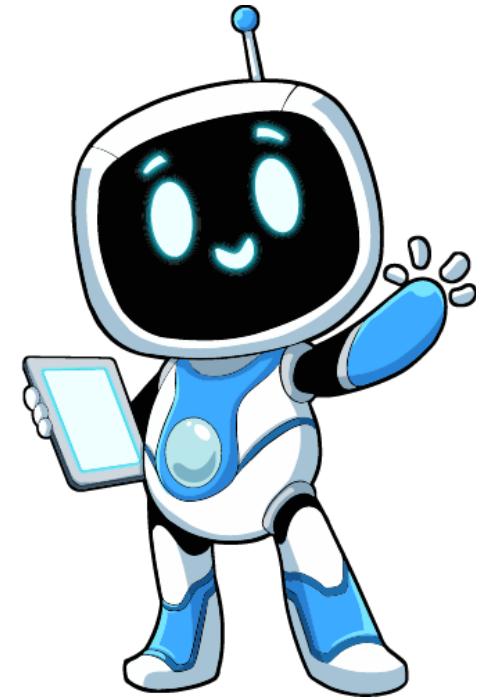
Bits

Common protocols

(no protocols; this is the physical medium itself)

Real-world example

Copper Ethernet cable, fiber optic, radio waves (WiFi), satellite link



MEMORIZE THIS TABLE

All 7 layers, one slide.

Layer	Name	PDU	Common protocols	Example device
7	Application	Data	HTTP/HTTPS, FTP, SMTP, DNS	Web browser
6	Presentation	Data	TLS, SSL, JPEG	HTTPS encryption
5	Session	Data	NetBIOS, RPC	Login session
4	Transport	Segment / Datagram	TCP, UDP	Port 443
3	Network	Packet	IP, ICMP	Router
2	Data Link	Frame	Ethernet, ARP	Switch
1	Physical	Bits	(physical medium)	Cable / fiber / radio

OSI vs TCP/IP

OSI = 7 layers (the teaching model). TCP/IP = 4 layers (what the real internet uses).

OSI (7 layers)

7	Application
6	Presentation
5	Session
4	Transport
3	Network
2	Data Link
1	Physical

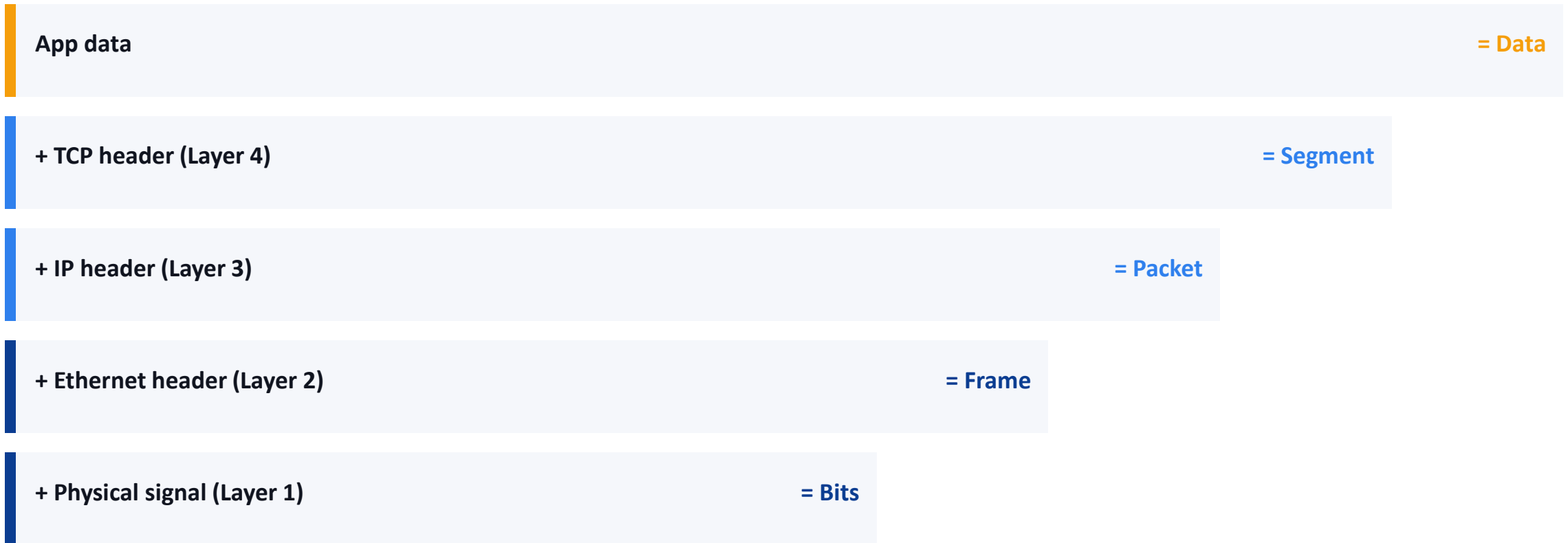
TCP/IP (4 layers)

Application <i>maps to OSI 5, 6, 7</i>
Transport <i>maps to OSI 4</i>
Internet <i>maps to OSI 3</i>
Link <i>maps to OSI 1 and 2</i>

ENCAPSULATION

Each layer wraps the next one in a header.

Send: add headers going down. Receive: strip them going up.



Sender goes DOWN the stack. Receiver goes UP and unwraps.

Section 2

PDU + troubleshooting

Use the model when something breaks.

PDU STACK

Memorize the PDU names in order.

PDU = protocol data unit. The name for "the thing being sent" at each layer.



Bottom of stack to top: Bits, Frame, Packet, Segment or Datagram, Data.

COMMON MISTAKES

Three traps the test (and your boss) will catch.

Mixing up the PDUs

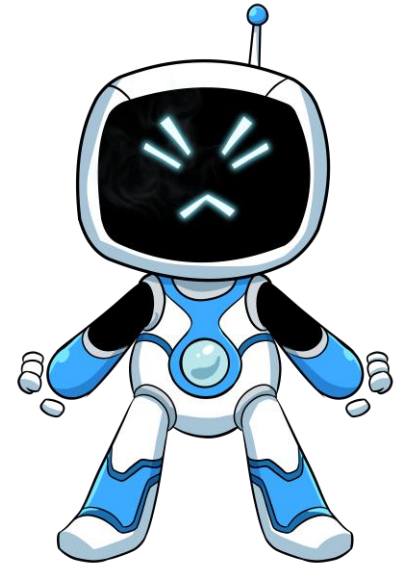
A "packet" is Layer 3 (IP). A "frame" is Layer 2 (Ethernet). They are not the same thing. Memorize the PDU stack.

Confusing OSI with TCP/IP

OSI has 7 layers. TCP/IP has 4 layers. They are different models. Know which one the question is asking about.

Putting devices at the wrong layer

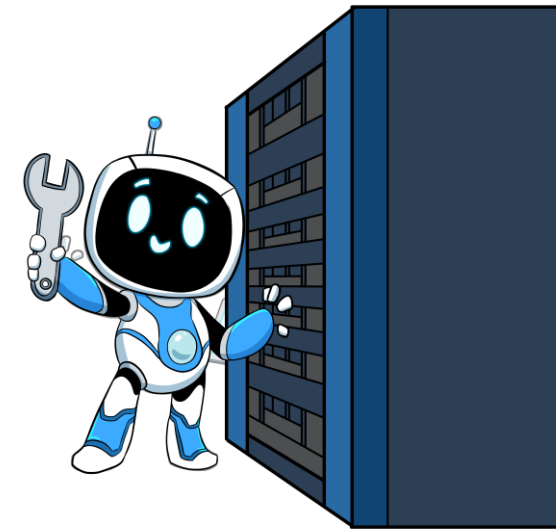
A standard switch is Layer 2 (forwards by MAC address). A standard router is Layer 3 (forwards by IP address). Do not swap them.



TROUBLESHOOTING BY LAYER

When something breaks, start at Layer 1 and work up.

Layer	Common symptom	First tool to grab
1	No link light. Cable damaged. WiFi signal dead.	Eyes. Cable tester. Swap the cable.
2	Switch port "err-disabled." MAC address flapping.	Switch console. show interface status.
3	Can ping by IP but not by name. Wrong subnet.	ipconfig (Windows), ifconfig (Linux), ping, tracer.
4	App times out. Port blocked by firewall.	telnet to port. nmap. Firewall log.
5	Login session drops mid-task.	App session log. Auth server log.
6	Certificate warning. HTTPS handshake fails.	Browser dev tools. Cert chain check.
7	Web app shows 500 error. Email bounces.	Web browser. App logs. Email headers.



THE MNEMONIC

Please Do Not Throw Sausage Pizza Away.

Bottom up: Layer 1 to Layer 7. Memorize once, never lose it.

P	D	N	T	S	P	A
Physical	Data Link	Network	Transport	Session	Presentation	Application
Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Layer 4	Layer 5	Layer 6	Layer 7

Drill: say it forwards, then backwards, until it sticks.

The Help Desk Ticket

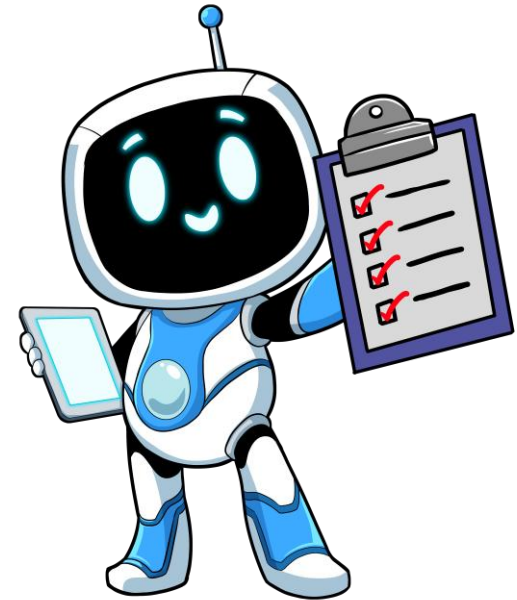
Use OSI as a checklist on a real ticket.

TICKET #N-0042

User report:

"My computer keeps disconnecting from the internet for like 30 seconds, then it comes back. Started yesterday. Same WiFi as always. Restarted my laptop twice."

Your job: walk the OSI checklist and find the root cause.



Section 3

Bringing it together

Five takeaways and what comes next.

5 things to remember.

- 1 The OSI model has 7 layers, bottom to top: Physical, Data Link, Network, Transport, Session, Presentation, Application.
- 2 The PDU stack: Bits (L1), Frame (L2), Packet (L3), Segment or Datagram (L4), Data (L5-7).
- 3 Switch lives at Layer 2 (MAC addresses). Router lives at Layer 3 (IP addresses). Firewall can span Layer 3 to Layer 7.
- 4 When something breaks, start at Layer 1 and work up. Most problems are in L1, L2, or L3.
- 5 Please Do Not Throw Sausage Pizza Away. Drill the mnemonic. The order matters.

TCP/IP deep dive.

How the 7 OSI layers compress into the 4 layers that actually run the internet.

Tomorrow's lesson covers:

- The 4 layers of TCP/IP: Link, Internet, Transport, Application
- How the OSI mapping breaks down in real protocol stacks
- Why the IETF chose 4 layers and what they merged
- When techs use OSI language vs TCP/IP language in real tickets

EXIT TICKET

Three quick prompts. Before you go.

Write on a notecard and hand in on the way out.

- 1 Name the 7 OSI layers in order.
- 2 What PDU is at Layer 3?
- 3 Which layer would you check first if a cable looked damaged?

