

Control Panel: In a windows PC, control panel is the most important program that lets us enter the detailed settings of our OS. In windows XP, control panel is found inside of the start menu. Though settings that are given in control panel are not common to every OS, instead, every new OS offers some new settings in it. Following are the most popular control panel settings found in windows XP:

- 1.** Administrative Tools
- 2.** Accessibility Options
- 3.** Add or Remove Programs
- 4.** Date and Time
- 5.** Display
- 6.** Folder Options
- 7.** Fonts
- 8.** Keyboard/Mouse
- 9.** Network Connections
- 10.** Printers and Faxes
- 11.** User Accounts
- 12.** Windows Firewall

- **Administrative Tools:** This toolbox lets us configure administrative services like: device management, disk management, local security policy etc.
- **Accessibility Options:** This tool provides the services that let a disabled user use the system perfectly.
- **Add or Remove Programs:** This tool lets a user install or uninstall a program or software easily.
- **Date and Time:** This tool lets us change the date and time settings of our PC.
- **Display:** This tool allows a user to configure the desktop environment like: themes, wallpapers, appearance, screensavers etc.

- **Folder Options:** This tool enables us to apply a lot of settings over the folders, their visibility and their usability.
- **Fonts:** This is a detailed directory of all the fonts installed in the system. If we want to add more, we need to simply copy them and paste in this directory.
- **Keyboard/Mouse:** These are basically two different tools. Detailed settings of keyboard and mouse are given here in these tools.
- **Network Connections:** The network status, properties, IP addresses etc are configured here.
- **Printers and Faxes:** All the printers that are installed in the system are shown here. We can configure each and every printer in this tool.
- **User Accounts:** This tool lets us create, configure and delete different user accounts for the system.
- **Windows Firewall:** This tool is basically a security mechanism. When it is ON, it protects the system from unauthorized access. Virus protection is not provided by firewalls.

Assignments:

- 1.** Briefly discuss about any five control-panel tools.
- 2.** What is Firewall? How it protects a PC?