CYSE 680 – Windows System For Cybersecurity

Lab Assignment: Windows Fundamentals Using TryHackMe

Objective

In this week's lab assignment, you will use **TryHackMe** to explore the fundamentals of the Windows operating system. This hands-on exercise will introduce you to the Windows desktop environment, NTFS file system, User Account Control (UAC), Control Panel, Windows Settings, Task Manager, and basic security features.

TryHackMe is a valuable cybersecurity learning platform that provides interactive, practical training in ethical hacking, penetration testing, and system security. You are encouraged to create a personal or student account and use the platform to strengthen your technical skills and support your future cybersecurity career.

Lab Platform

Website: https://tryhackme.com/

Room: Windows Fundamentals 1

Room Link: Windows Fundamentals 1 – TryHackMe

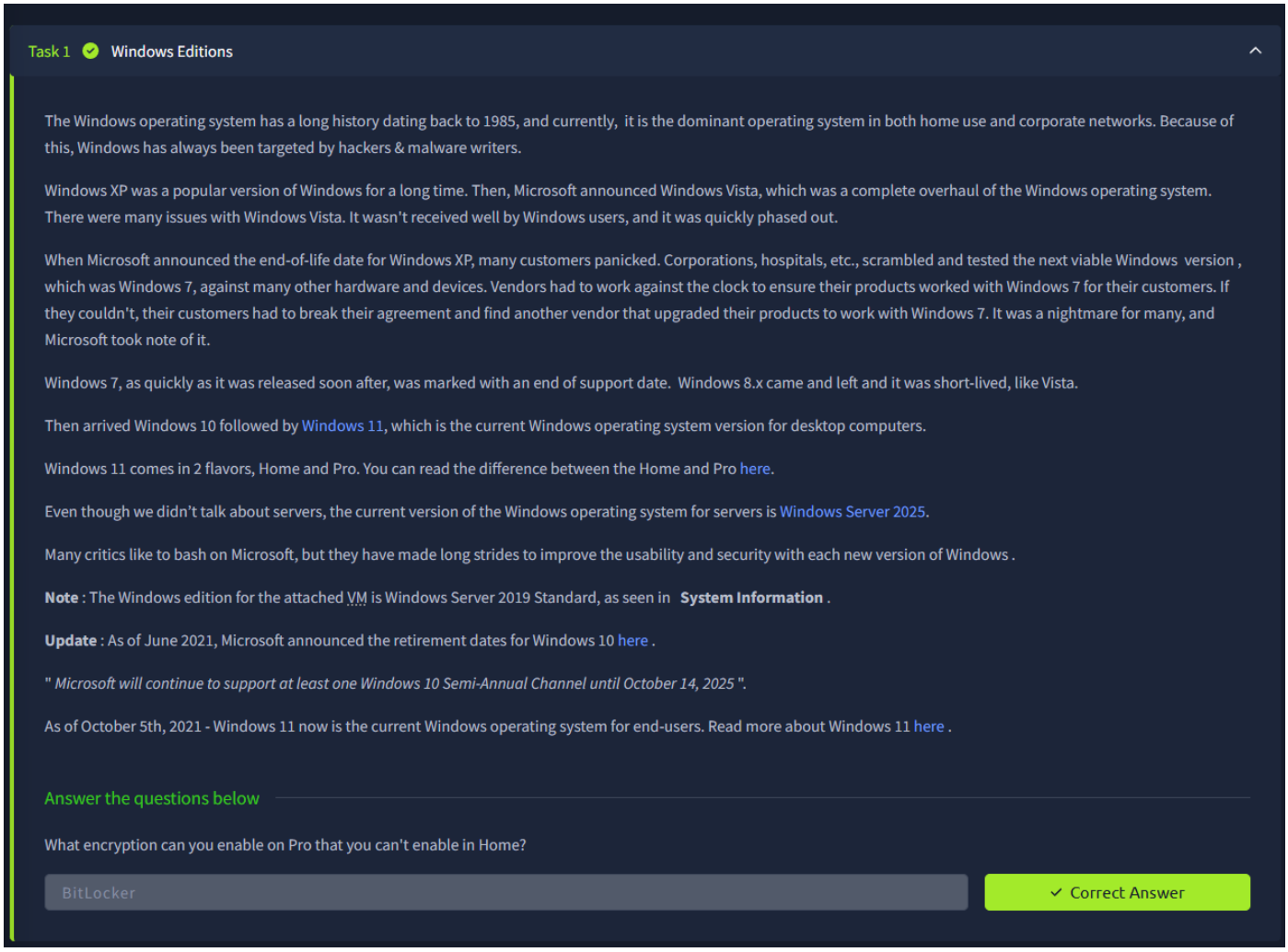
Assignment Instructions

1. Create an account on TryHackMe using your personal or student email address.
2. Access the assigned room and follow all instructions provided on the platform.
3. Complete **every task and question** in the assigned TryHackMe room.
4. Carefully read the explanations and perform the practical activities as instructed.
5. Take clear screenshots of **each completed task, question, and required activity**. Screenshots must provide sufficient evidence of your work and answers.
6. Include all required screenshots in a Microsoft Word document.
7. For each task or question, provide a brief explanation of **2–3 complete sentences** describing what you did, what you observed, or what you learned.
8. Organize the document in the same order as the TryHackMe room to ensure that all activities are easy to follow and evaluate.
9. Review your document before submission to confirm that no questions, screenshots, or explanations are missing.

Required Documentation Format

For each activity, use the following format:

1.



This section covers the difference between Windows Pro and Home. BitLocker is available on Pro but not on Home.

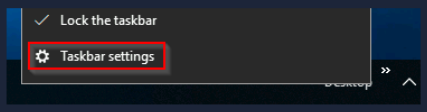
2.

Hovering over the icon will provide a preview thumbnail, along with a tooltip. This tooltip is handy if you have many apps/programs open, such as Google Chrome, and you wish to find which instance of Google Chrome is the one you need to bring in to focus.

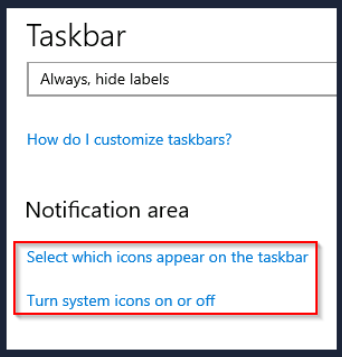
When you close any of these items, they will disappear from the taskbar (unless you explicitly pinned it to the taskbar).

The Notification Area

The Notification Area, which is typically located at the bottom right of the Windows screen, is where the date and time are displayed. Other icons possibly visible in this area is the volume icon, network/wireless icon, to name a few. Icons can be either added or removed from the Notification Area in Taskbar settings.



From there, scroll down to the Notification Area section to make changes.



Here are Microsoft's brief documents for the Start Menu and Notification Area .

Tip : You can right-click any folder, file, app/program, or icon to view more information or perform other actions on the clicked item.

Answer the questions below

Which selection will hide/disable the Search box?

Hidden ✓ Correct Answer

Which selection will hide/disable the Task View button?

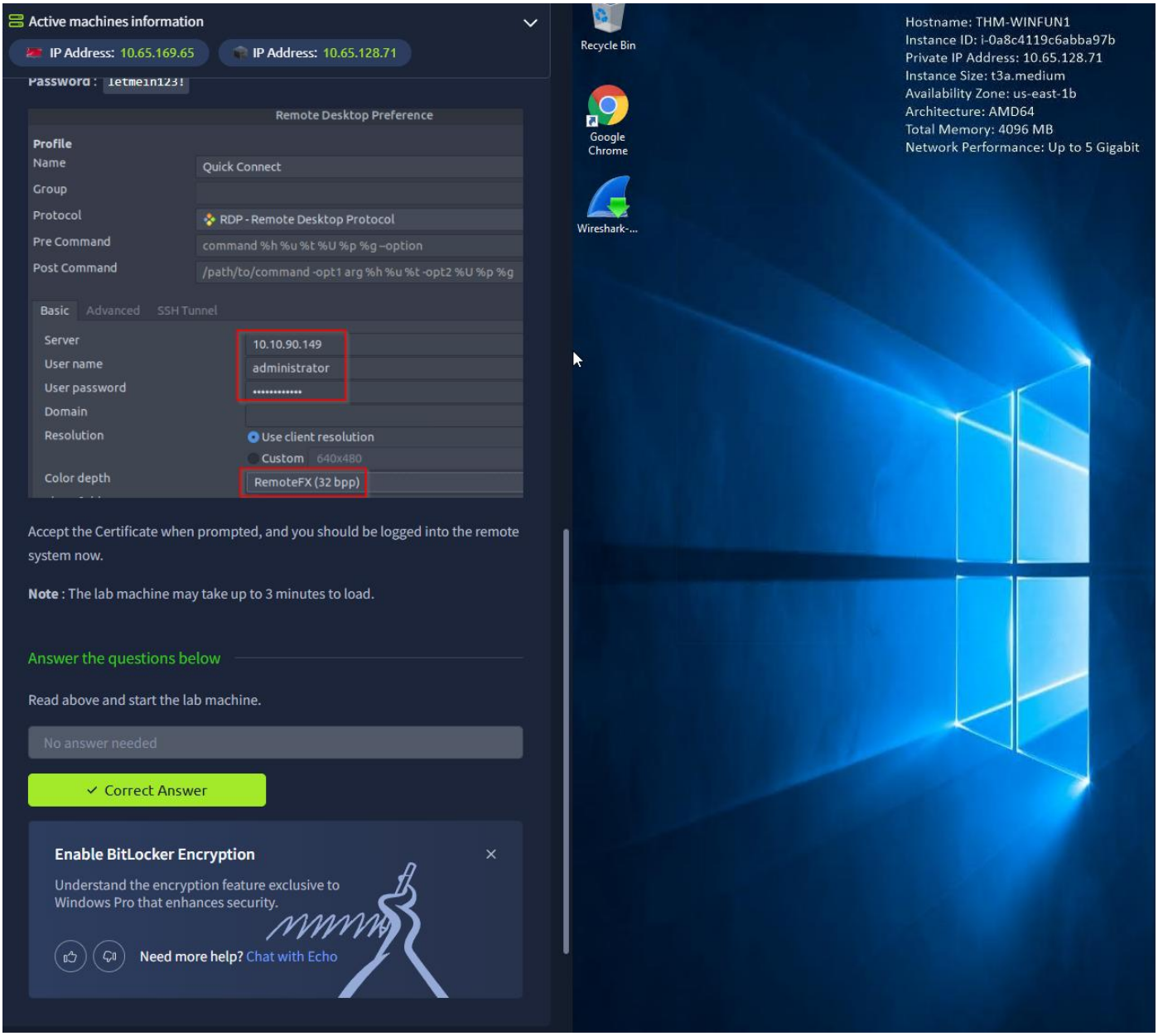
Show Task View button ✓ Correct Answer

Besides Clock and Network, what other icon is visible in the Notification Area?

Action Center ✓ Correct Answer

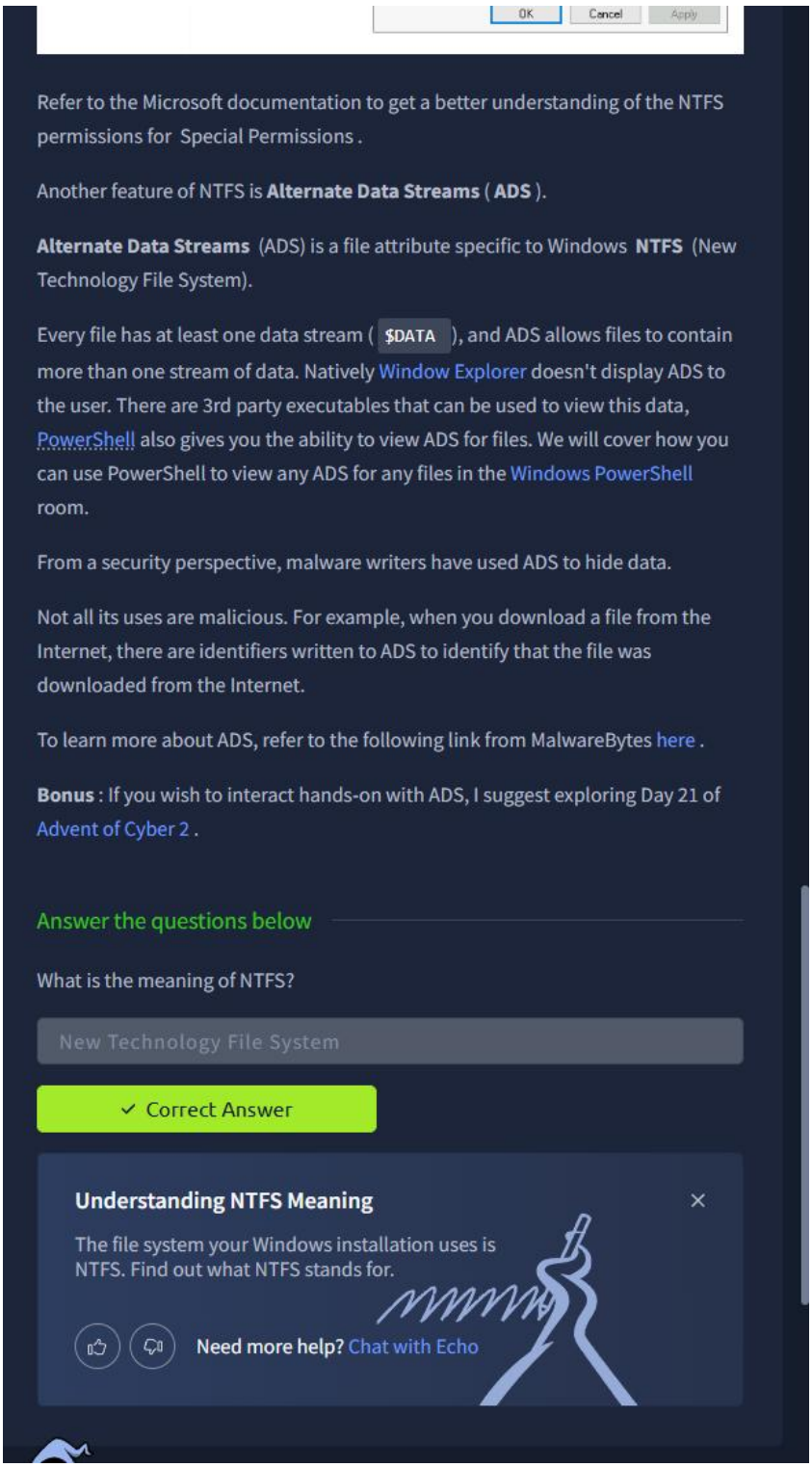
This section covers appearance in Windows. Hidden enables a user to hide the search box.

3.



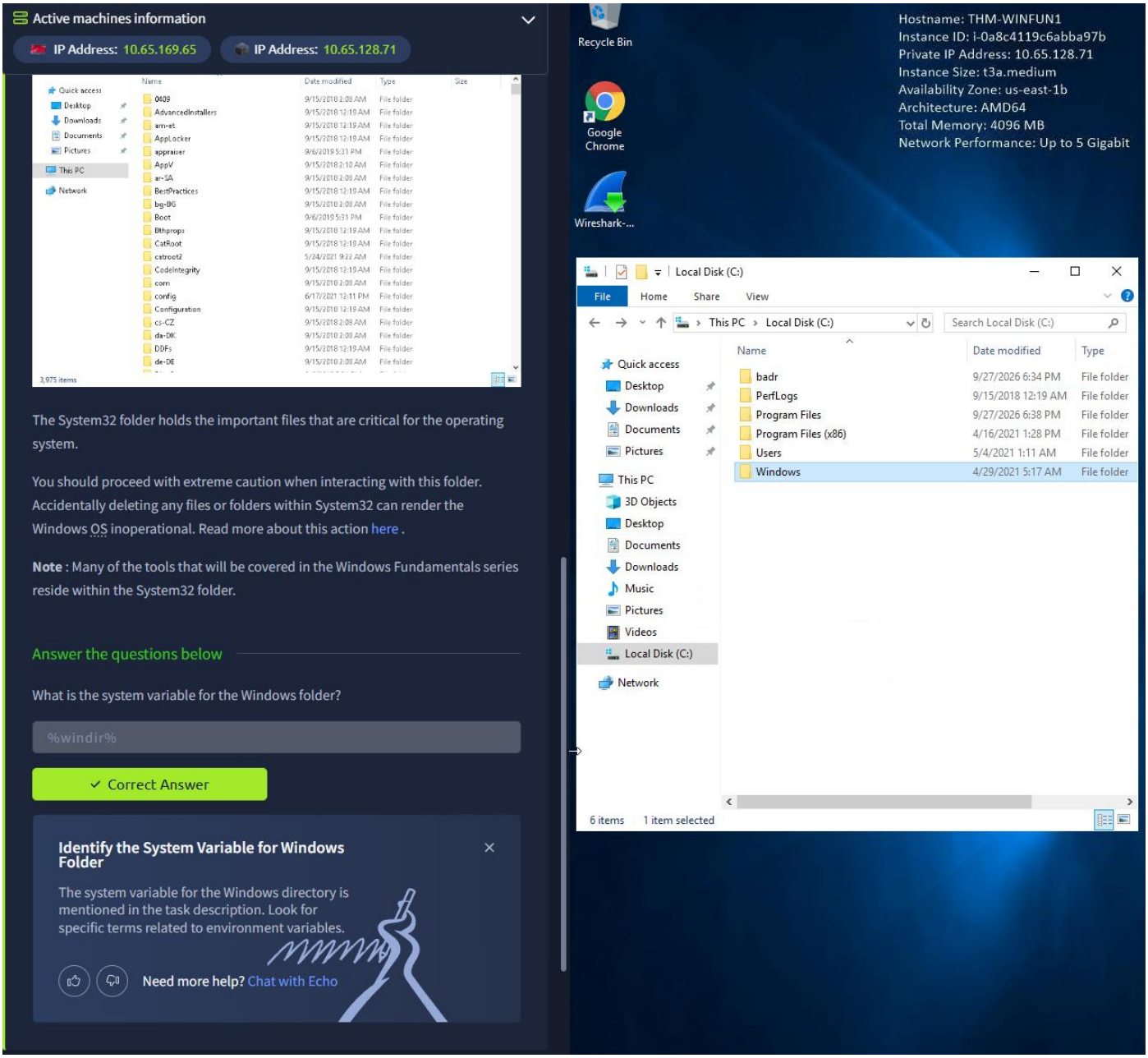
This section involves starting up and connecting to the virtual machines. I was able to access and use the VMs.

4.



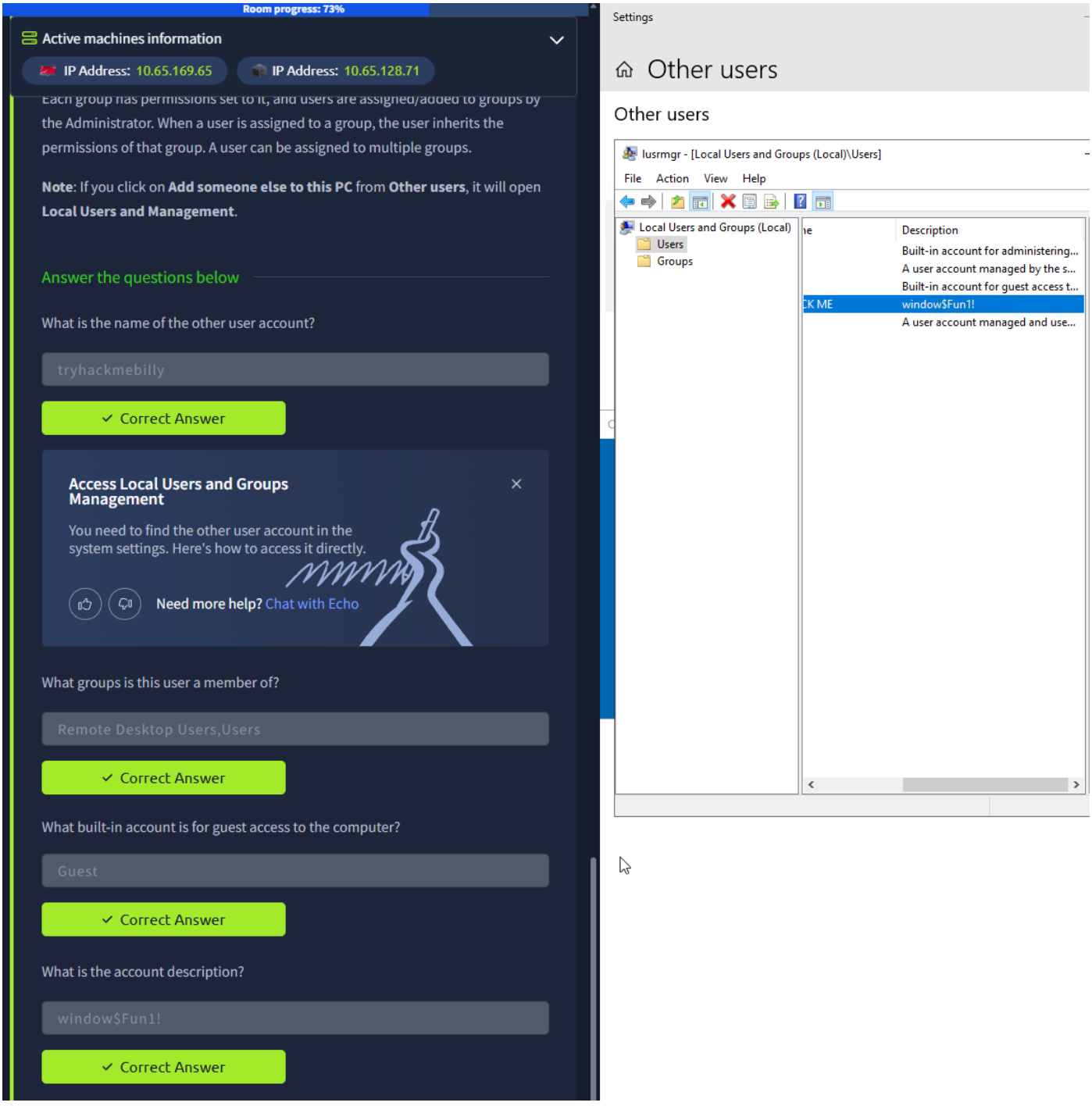
This task involved security and ADS. NTFS stands for New Technology File System.

5.



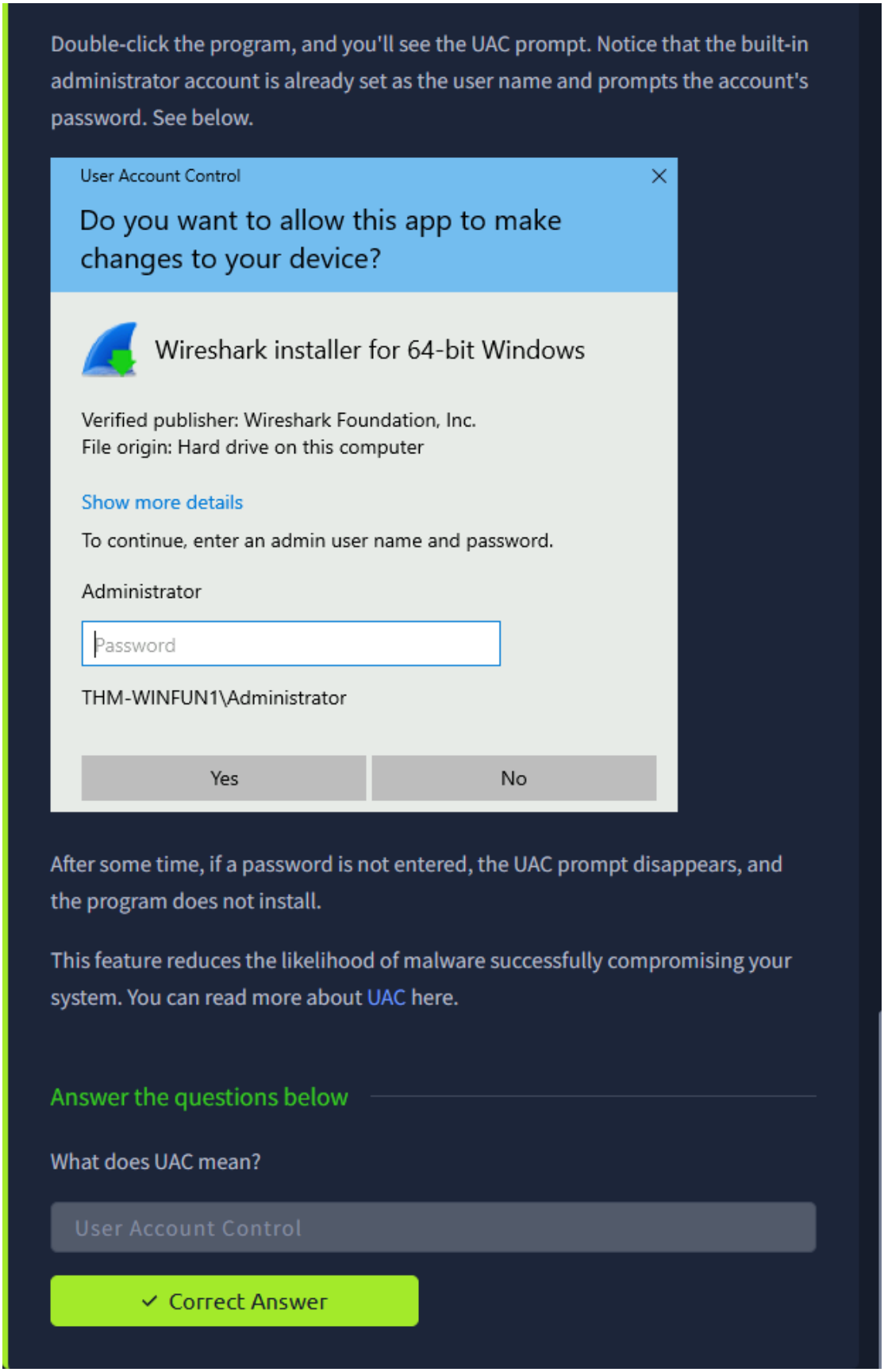
This task involved exploring Windows files and folders. The variable for the Windows folder is %windir%.

6.



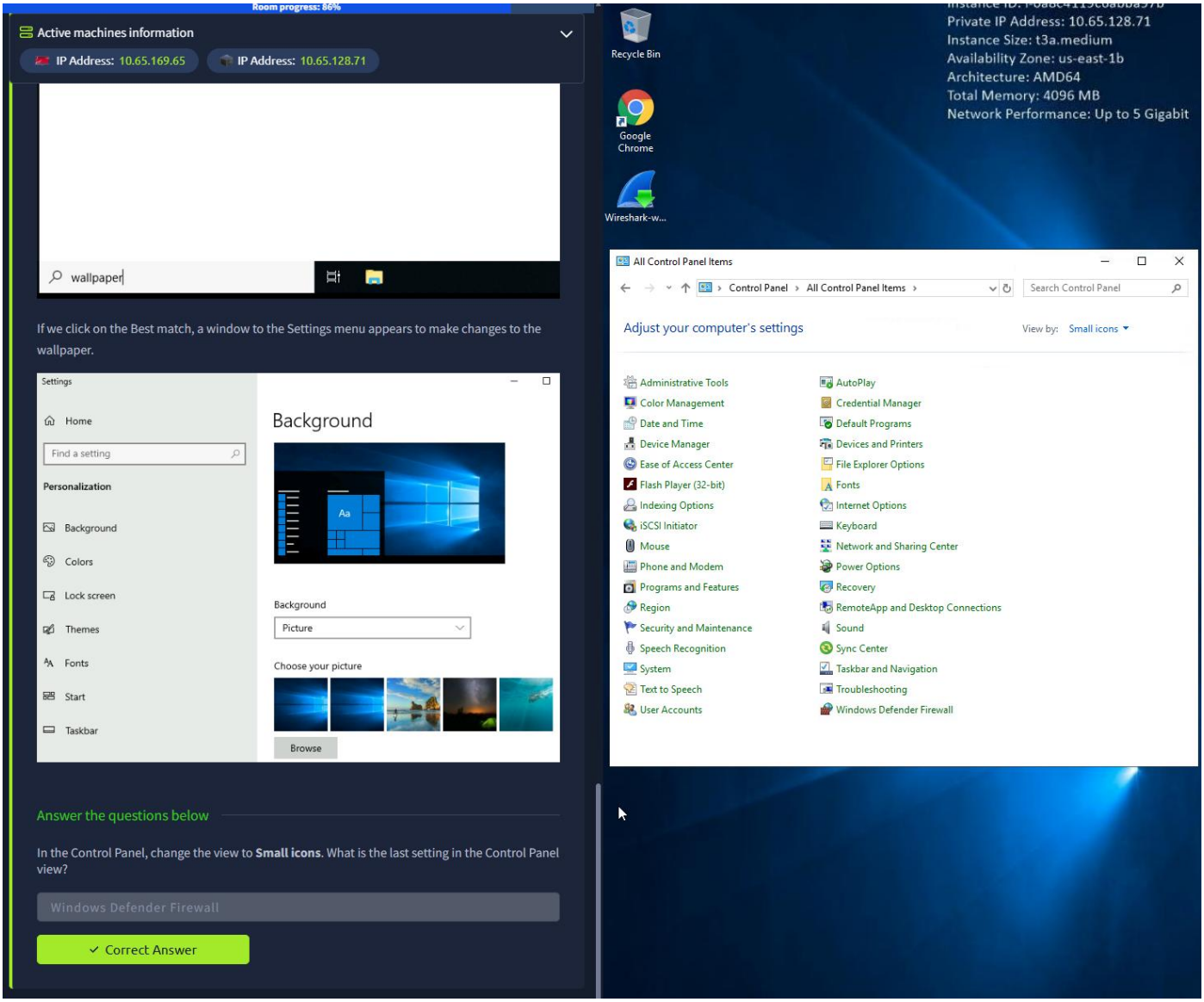
This task covered user accounts. It involved various methods of viewing users and account descriptions.

7.



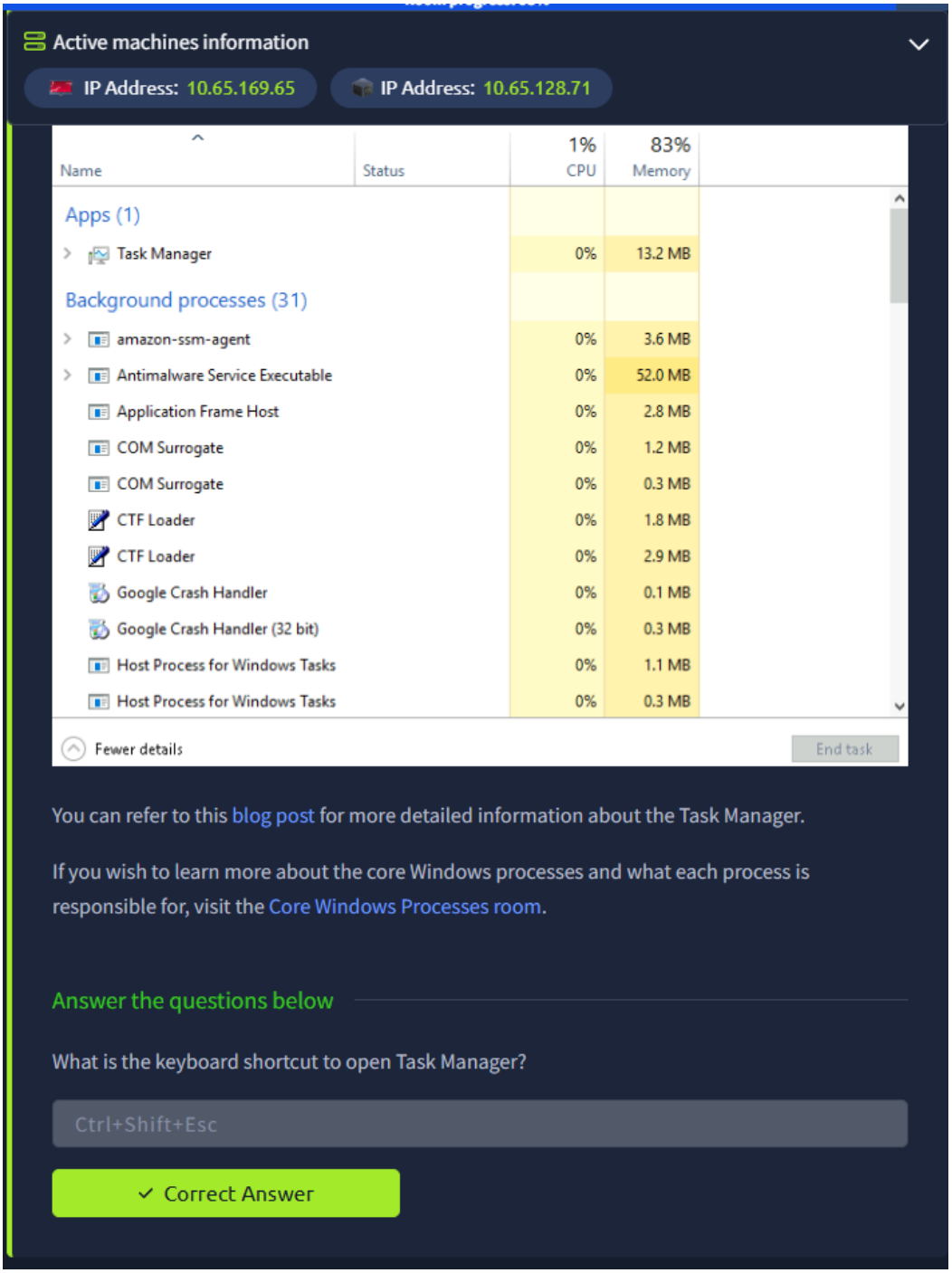
This section covered Wireshark and asked for the definition of UAC. UAC is an abbreviation for User Account Control.

8.



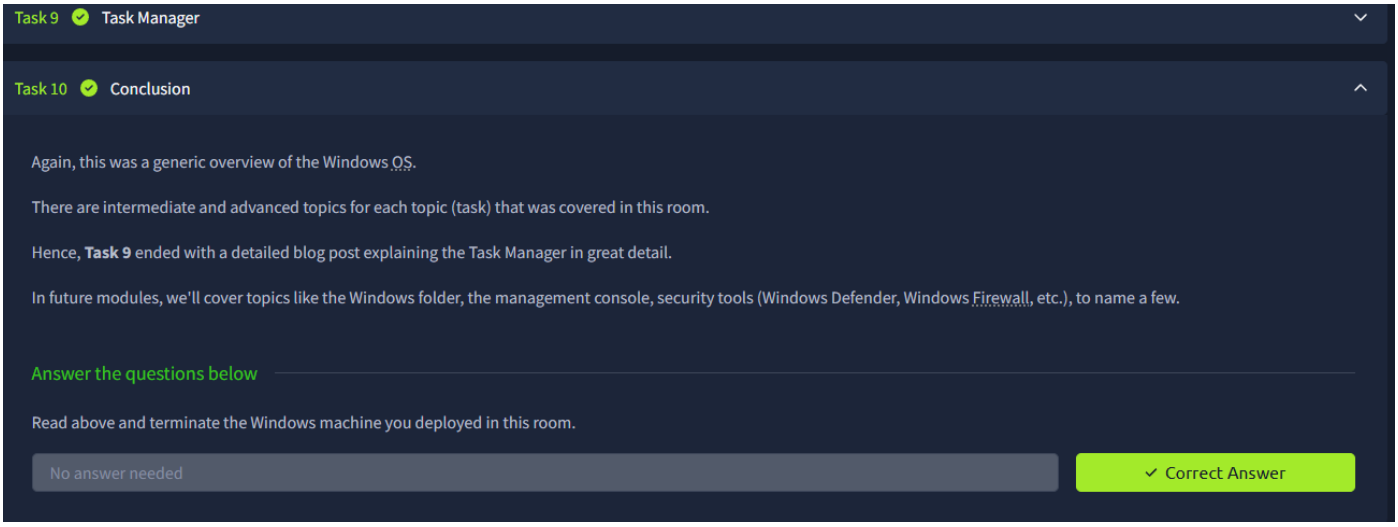
This involved changing the icon size in the Control Panel. The last setting was Windows Defender Firewall.

9.



This discusses the Task Manager application. Ctrl+Shift+Esc is the keyboard shortcut to open Task Manager.

10.



This is the conclusion of the lab. This lab covers basic Windows OS functions and settings.