Paper #2 – Visions of the Future
Minimum 1250 words

Topic: Looking at current trends and projecting them into the future is a good approach to determine what will be happening farther down the line. For this paper, take an aspect of our society that relies on computers and project how this sector will progress into the future.

Goal: The goal for this paper is to look at the world in a hypothetical way and think about what will be happening in the future. You will be given a great deal of latitude in how you formulated this paper, but it should be grounded by some currently visible trends in computer technology.

Suggestions:
• For this paper, you can pick up where your previous paper ends, or choose a new direction.
• Things to consider are: how will your chosen aspect of society change, will that aspect lead to something else, or will something new enhance the aspect of society you are looking at.
• Try to divide the paper into the present, near future, and far future. Dividing the paper will allow you to talk about what is going on, where society is going, and finally what will the direction be in a sci-fi sort of way.
• Do not be afraid to get a little wild in your assumptions.

General requirements and info:
• The paper cannot be written in 1st person.
• All concrete information in the article will be attributed.
• References do not contribute to word count.
• All references can be in the format of your choosing, but must provide enough information to find the reference.
• There should be enough references to cover the described material.
• The references must come from three or more major sources, so you cannot rely exclusively on a single source (like the New York Times).
• Wikipedia is a good starting point, but not allowed as a reference.
• All references must be the primary reference. So if you find an article on bionic limbs in Newsweek, you should track the information back to its source.
• There are many good accessible magazines from the ACM and IEEE
  o Communications of the ACM (http://cacm.acm.org/)
  o IEEE Computer (http://www.computer.org/portal/web/computer/home)
  o IEEE Spectrum (http://spectrum.ieee.org/)

Important Dates:
Week 6 Monday (2/27/2012) – Assignment distributed
Week 8 Sunday (3/18/2012) – WA draft due on Moodle: Sunday at 11:59pm
Week 10 Sunday (4/1/2012) – Final Draft due on Moodle: Sunday at 11:59pm