1 TV TERMINOLOGY 101:

PART 1

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2 Flat-panel Technology

- Plasma
 - Each pixel consists of three gas-filled cells
 - Electric current ionizes the gas, emitting UV that stimulates the cells' phosphors
 - Unlimited viewing angle
 - Excellent color and contrast
 - Glossy finish is not as good for bright rooms
 - Found mainly in display sizes exceeding 43"
- LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)
 - Electric current causes crystals to polarize, blocking the backlight
 - Unblocked pixels allow light to pass through
 - Lower energy consumption than plasma
 - Limited viewing angle
 - Less fluid motion (suffers from "motion blur")
 - Matte finish is better for bright rooms
 - Wide selection of display sizes

3 Backlight Technology

- Fluorescent
 - Uses fluorescent light source
 - Lower color and contrast quality than LED
- LED (Light-Emitting Diode)
 - Electrical component called a "diode" generates light for every pixel
 - Lower energy use than fluorescent backlight
 - Used in newer LCD TVs
 - "Local dimming" provides better contrast and more fluid motion

4 OLED Displays

- Organic LED is used in small electronics and some newer LCD TVs
- Thin-film transistor layer contains circuitry for every pixel
- Thinner display—no separate backlight required
- More energy efficient than plasma or LCD
- Excellent color and contrast
- Unlimited viewing angle
- Fluid motion
- New kid on the block: 55" displays currently run between \$9,000 and \$10,000

5 Specifications

- Aspect ratio: display size—expressed as a ratio of the number of pixels horizontally vs. vertically
- Color resolution: the number of distinct colors than may be represented
- Contrast ratio: the difference between the darkest blacks and brightest whites
- Frame rate: the number of still frames that may be displayed per second (measured as fps)
- Light output: the amount of light produced by the display as measured in lumens
- Viewing angle: the maximum angle from which the display may be watched without loss of detail

6 Scanning Specifications

- Interlaced scan: the "lines" in the display are "drawn" in two sweeps—first the oddnumbered, then the even-numbered
 - Indicated by "i" after the vertical measurement (e.g. 1080i)
- Progressive scan: the "lines" in the display are "drawn" all in one sweep; doubles the frame rate of interlaced scan
 - Indicated by "p" after the vertical measurement (e.g. 1080p)

7 High Definition TV

- High definition (HDTV): specifies a display size of:
 - 1920x1080p
 - 1920x1080i
 - 1440x1080i
 - 1280x720p
- Ultra-high definition (UHD): specifies a display size of:
 - 2160p (4K UHD)
 - 4320p (8K UHD)

8 Resolution Adjustment

- Downconversion: process by which a TV scales down the picture resolution
 - Example: reducing 1080 down to 720
 - Picture detail is lost
- Upconversion: process by which the picture is scaled up to a higher resolution
 - Example: increasing 720 to 1080
 - Can result in some "pixelation" of the image

9 Other TV Technologies

- Smart TV: TV that is linked to a local network or network
 - Networking may be built into the set or achieved with a separate set-top box
 - Supports streaming content such as Netflix, accessing on-screen programming quides, and user interaction
- 3D TV: TV that creates the illusion of depth and distance
 - Some require special glasses (active shutter 3D or polarized 3D)
 - Some are autostereoscopic (no glasses required)

10 Questions?