

Before Denning article questions

1. Computer science brings to mind people who have learned how to code computers. It is a field that is dedicated to making computers more useful to users.
2. It is likely that they think of a complicated system beyond their understanding that some people with a particular aptitude work in but that for most is incomprehensible.
3. It is likely that younger friends and relatives think of the many science fiction fantasies that computers can do, such as artificial intelligence.

Before Janovy chapter questions

1. Biology brings to mind a field that studies life. It is the scientific approach to what life does and how it works in all of its many forms.
2. I consider myself a biologist because I am a biology major. While I do not work full-time in scientific pursuits, I have dedicated this time in my life to the study of life, which is the fundamental aspect of biology. Furthermore, I have engaged in research, which is the quintessential work of a biologist.

After reading questions

1. The purpose of these readings was to dispel common misconceptions about both computer science and biology.
2. The computational thinker appealed to me the most because of the emphasis on problem solving and because that job links programmers and scientists to do incredible things.
3. While it is obvious, and even uses a word created for the human brain before computers and computation, the principle of recollection can obviously be applied to the memory of human brains.

4. I found the most interesting and provocative piece of this reading the distinction between identity and action. Someone may work their entire life in a shop, but that does not make them a shopkeeper. And, conversely, there are some people who spend relatively little time in a shop yet consider themselves shopkeepers for nostalgic, idealistic, or other personal reasons. When applied to biology, his critique of the education given to biology majors is valid; they are taught about the science, but not what it means to be a scientist, or why they chose to be one.
5. Being a biologist means accepting an identity, typically one that began in fascination with the world. I do consider myself a biologist because of this fascination, and not my chosen major or work. To liken myself to the author's examples, I had a collection of pine cones, leaves, twigs, dead insects, etc. when I was young because I was fascinated with them. This makes me a biologist far more than any formal education could, for while I do biology, doing something does give an identity.