1998 Paper 8 Question 2

Digital Communication II

"A TCP implementation tries to model the state of the receiver and of the channel."

(*a*) Describe in detail which aspects of the receiver state and the channel are being modelled. [5 marks]

(*b*) To what extent can the model which TCP builds up be inaccurate? What are the consequences of the inaccuracy? [5 marks]

(*c*) "TCP works well for long-lived connections but not so well for short-lived connections." Discuss. [5 marks]

(*d*) "Load balancing of links in the internet is a mixed blessing." Discuss. [5 marks]