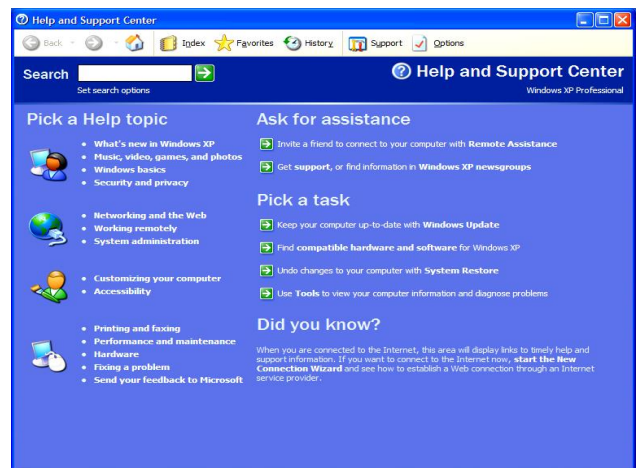# EVANGELOS C. ZIOULAS

IT Teacher

VCZ

ON-LINE HELP

ON-LINE HELP

- All modern software applications relieve users from buying books and other **user manuals** if they want to find help for using their programs.

- Each contemporary computer application or operating system actually provides user with a form of assistance called **On-Line Help.**

- The on-line help is a topic-oriented system that is provided to users in two basic forms:

    ► **Hypertext** form (made by HTML)

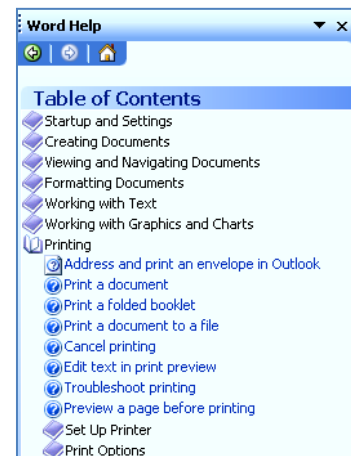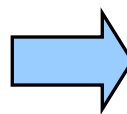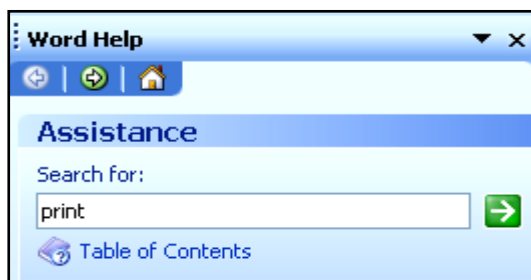   ► **Portable document format** (Adobe PDF)

LAUNCHING ON-LINE HELP

There are three basic ways to launch on-line help in an application:

    ► A) in **Menu Bar** select Help

    ► B) press the **F1** button

    ► C) Tap the **Help icon** wherever it is placed.

TOOLS OF ON-LINE HELP

A computer can provide help in three basic ways:

    ► **Assistance**
    ► **Table of Contents**
    ► **Index**

ASSISTANCE

- We write a **keyword** or a **phrase** in a textbox which describes briefly the theme we are looking for.

- After searching, a **table of contents** is appeared which is a list of related contents.

- A user selects the theme that interests him and is driven to new pieces of information in text or hypertext form that called **nodes.**

- Nodes are text files interconnected through **links** similarly to web pages of world wide web.

- A link is always activated by pressing specific words or phrases called **hot words**.

Evangelos C. Zioulas (IT Teacher)

- Hot words are **hypertexts** that are characterized from a different color (often blue) that drive through links to other texts or hypertexts.
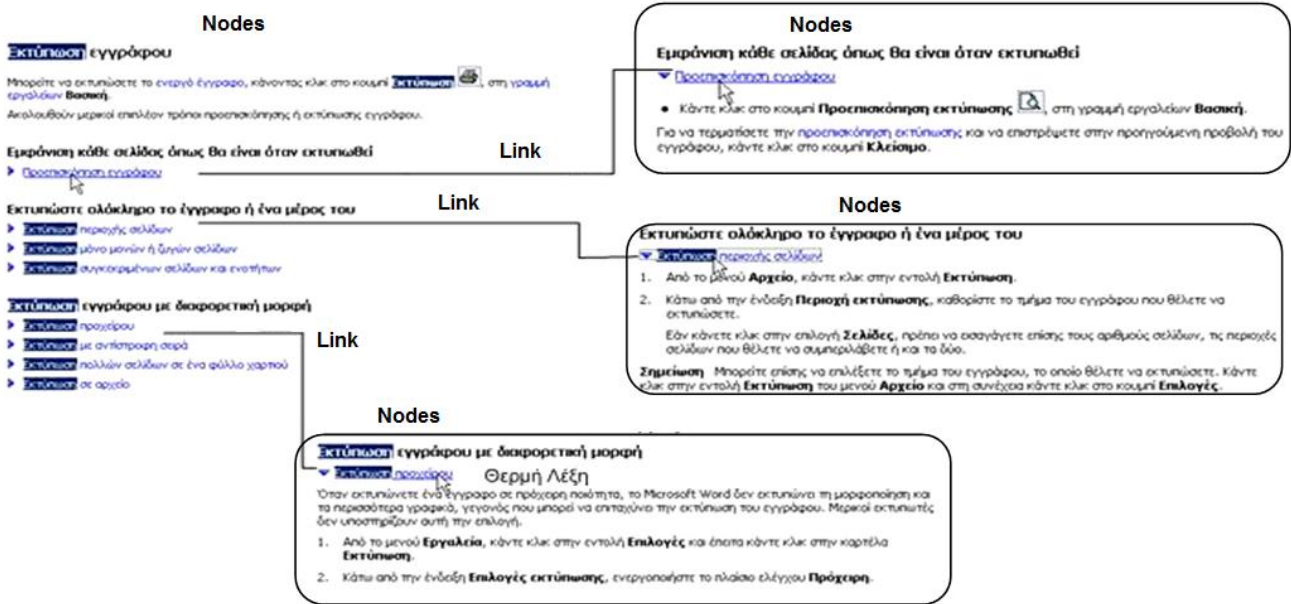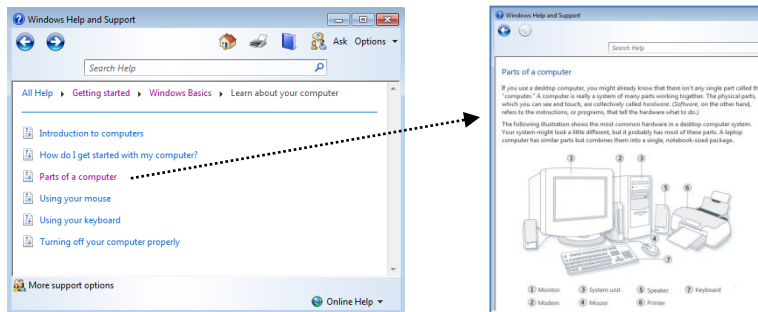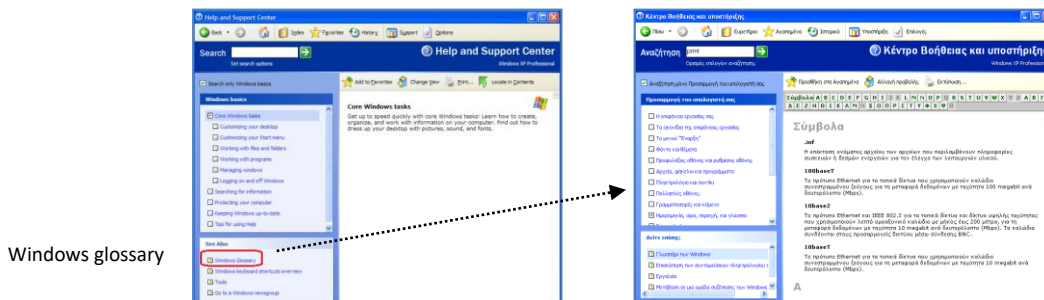

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- It provides user a list of **complete topics** that are organized by categories of interest.

- The user again can select any topic interests him via **hot words** or **phrases**.

- The more hyperlinks a user selects the more detailed information he gathers about a topic.

- A table of contents is a kind of on-line help that is oriented more to novice users.

INDEX (GLOSSARY)

- It provides a **list of terms** alphabetically organized. The terms are both greek or english.

- The index help is one of the basic help tools in **Help & Support Center** of Windows XP.

Windows glossary

Evangelos C. Zioulas (IT Teacher)