Chapter 3: VLANs

Routing & Switching

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Chapter 3

Chapter 3: Objectives

- Explain the purpose of VLANs in a switched network.

- Analyze how a switch forwards frames based on VLAN configuration in a multi-switched environment.

- Configure a switch port to be assigned to a VLAN based on requirements.

- Configure a trunk port on a LAN switch.

- Configure Dynamic Trunk Protocol (DTP).

- Troubleshoot VLAN and trunk configurations in a switched network.

- Configure security features to mitigate attacks in a VLAN-segmented environment.

- Explain security best practices for a VLAN-segmented environment.

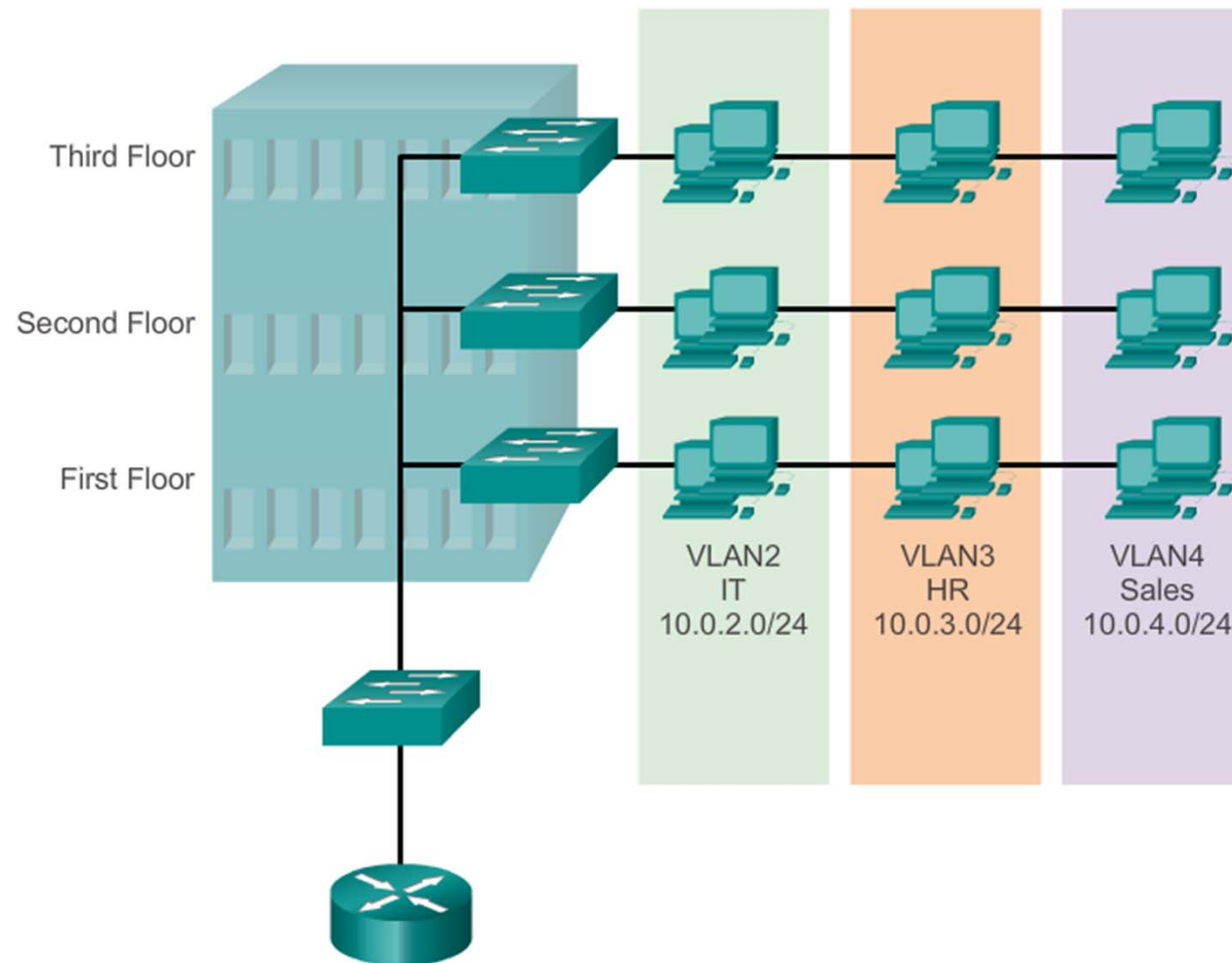# 3.1 VLAN Segmentation

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VLAN Definitions

- A VLAN is a logical partition of a Layer 2 network.

- Multiple partitions can be created, allowing for multiple VLANs to co-exist.

- Each VLAN is a broadcast domain, usually with its own IP network.

- VLANs are mutually isolated and packets can only pass between them via a router.

- The partitioning of the Layer 2 network takes place inside a Layer 2 device, usually via a switch.

- The hosts grouped within a VLAN are unaware of the VLAN's existence.

VLAN Definitions (cont.)

Third Floor

Second Floor

First Floor

VLAN2
IT
10.0.2.0/24

VLAN3
HR
10.0.3.0/24

VLAN4
Sales
10.0.4.0/24

Benefits of VLANs

- Security

- Cost reduction

- Better performance

- Shrink broadcast domains

- Improved IT staff efficiency

- Simpler project and application management

Types of VLANs

- Data VLAN

- Default VLAN

- Native VLAN

- Management VLAN

Types of VLANs (cont.)

VLAN 1

```
Switch# show vlan brief

VLAN Name                             Status     Ports
---- -------------------- --------- -------------------------
1    default                          active     Fa0/1,  Fa0/2,  Fa0/3,  Fa0/4
                                                 Fa0/5,  Fa0/6,  Fa0/7,  Fa0/8
                                                 Fa0/9,  Fa0/10, Fa0/11, Fa0/12
                                                 Fa0/13, Fa0/14, Fa0/15, Fa0/16
                                                 Fa0/17, Fa0/18, Fa0/19, Fa0/20
                                                 Fa0/21, Fa0/22, Fa0/23, Fa0/24
                                                 Gi0/1,  Gi0/2
1002 fddi-default                     act/unsup
1003 token-ring-default               act/unsup
1004 fddinet-default                  act/unsup
1005 trnet-default                    act/unsup
```

- All ports assigned to VLAN 1 to forward data by default.
- Native VLAN is VLAN 1 by default.
- Management VLAN is VLAN 1 by default.
- VLAN 1 cannot be renamed or deleted.
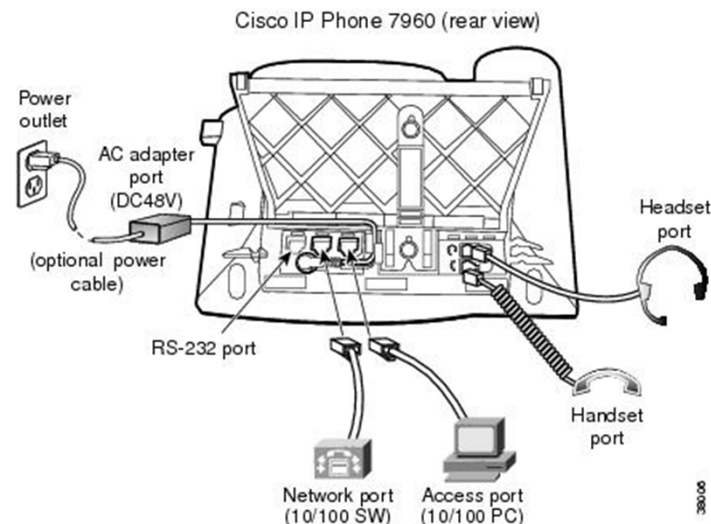
Voice VLANs

- VoIP traffic is time-sensitive and requires:

    - Assured bandwidth to ensure voice quality.

    - Transmission priority over other types of network traffic.

    - Ability to be routed around congested areas on the network.

    - Delay of less than 150 ms across the network.

- The voice VLAN feature enables access ports to carry IP voice traffic from an IP phone.

- The switch can connect to a Cisco 7960 IP phone and carry IP voice traffic.

- The sound quality of an IP phone call can deteriorate if the data is unevenly sent; the switch supports quality of service (QoS).
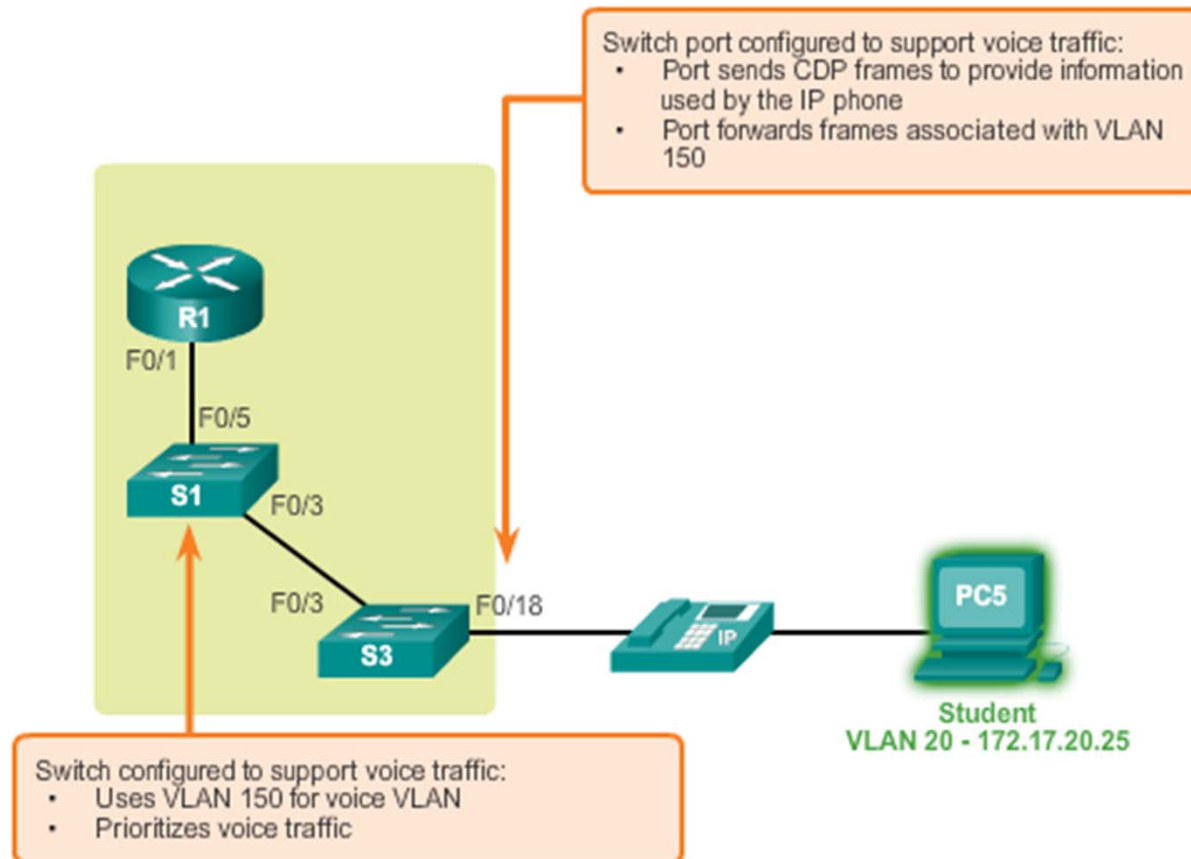
Voice VLANs (cont.)

- The Cisco 7960 IP phone has two RJ-45 ports that each support connections to external devices.

  - **Network Port (10/100 SW) -** Use this port to connect the phone to the network. The phone can also obtain inline power from the Cisco Catalyst switch over this connection.

  - **Access Port (10/100 PC) -** Use this port to connect a network device, such as a computer, to the phone.

Cisco IP Phone 7960 (rear view)

Power outlet

AC adapter port (DC48V)

(optional power cable)

Headset port

RS-232 port

Network port (10/100 SW)

Access port (10/100 PC)

Handset port

Voice VLANs (cont.)

Switch port configured to support voice traffic:
- Port sends CDP frames to provide information used by the IP phone
- Port forwards frames associated with VLAN 150

R1

F0/1

F0/5

S1   F0/3

F0/3   F0/18

S3

PC5

IP

Student
VLAN 20 - 172.17.20.25

Switch configured to support voice traffic:
- Uses VLAN 150 for voice VLAN
- Prioritizes voice traffic

VLAN Trunks

- A VLAN trunk carries more than one VLAN.

- A VLAN trunk is usually established between switches so same-VLAN devices can communicate, even if physically connected to different switches.

- A VLAN trunk is not associated to any VLANs; neither is the trunk ports used to establish the trunk link.

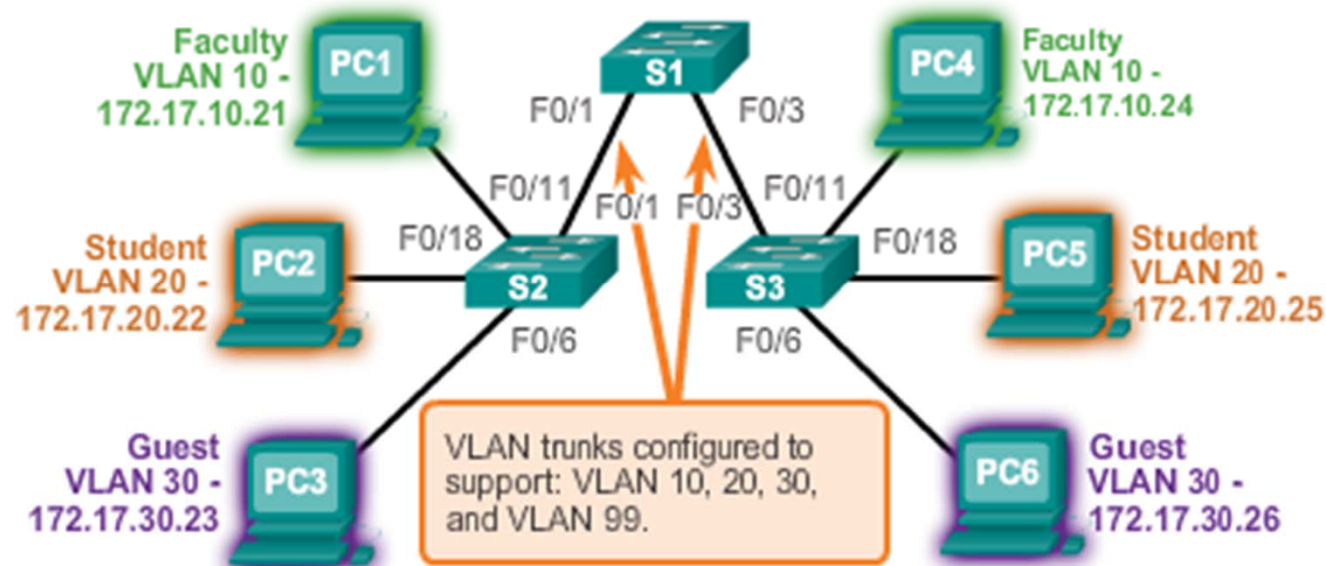- Cisco IOS supports IEEE802.1q, a popular VLAN trunk protocol.

VLAN Trunks (cont.)

VLAN 10 Faculty/Staff - 172.17.10.0/24
VLAN 20 Students - 172.17.20.0/24
VLAN 30 Guest - 172.17.30.0/24
VLAN 99 Management and Native -
172.17.99.0/24

F0/1-5 are 802.1Q trunk interfaces with native
VLAN 99.
F0/11-17 are in VLAN 10.
F0/18-24 are in VLAN 20.
F0/6-10 are in VLAN 30.

Faculty
VLAN 10 -
172.17.10.21

PC1

S1

F0/1   F0/3

PC4

Faculty
VLAN 10 -
172.17.10.24

F0/11   F0/1 F0/3   F0/11

Student
VLAN 20 -
172.17.20.22

PC2

F0/18

S2

F0/6

S3

F0/18

PC5

Student
VLAN 20 -
172.17.20.25

F0/6

Guest
VLAN 30 -
172.17.30.23

PC3

VLAN trunks configured to
support: VLAN 10, 20, 30,
and VLAN 99.

PC6

Guest
VLAN 30 -
172.17.30.26

Controlling Broadcast Domains with VLANs

- VLANs can be used to limit the reach of broadcast frames.

- A VLAN is a broadcast domain of its own.

- A broadcast frame sent by a device in a specific VLAN is forwarded within that VLAN only.

- VLANs help control the reach of broadcast frames and their impact in the network.

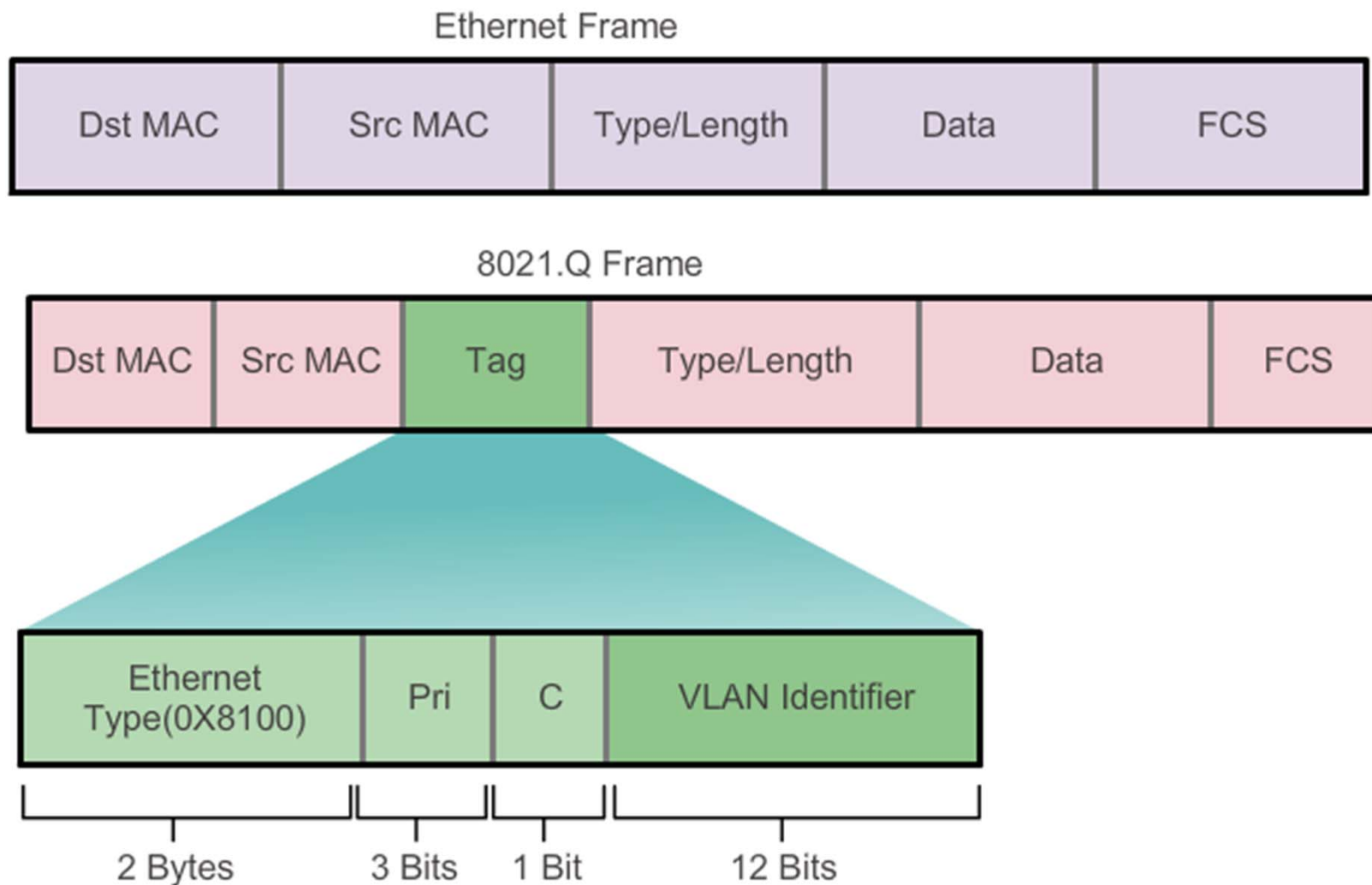- Unicast and multicast frames are forwarded within the originating VLAN.

Tagging Ethernet Frames for VLAN Identification

- Frame tagging is the process of adding a VLAN identification header to the frame.

- It is used to properly transmit multiple VLAN frames through a trunk link.

- Switches tag frames to identify the VLAN to that they belong. Different tagging protocols exist; IEEE 802.1Q is a vey popular example.

- The protocol defines the structure of the tagging header added to the frame.

- Switches add VLAN tags to the frames before placing them into trunk links and remove the tags before forwarding frames through nontrunk ports.

- When properly tagged, the frames can transverse any number of switches via trunk links and still be forwarded within the correct VLAN at the destination.

VLANs in a Multi-Switched Environment
Tagging Ethernet Frames for VLAN Identification

Ethernet Frame

Dst MAC	Src MAC	Type/Length	Data	FCS

8021.Q Frame

Dst MAC	Src MAC	Tag	Type/Length	Data	FCS

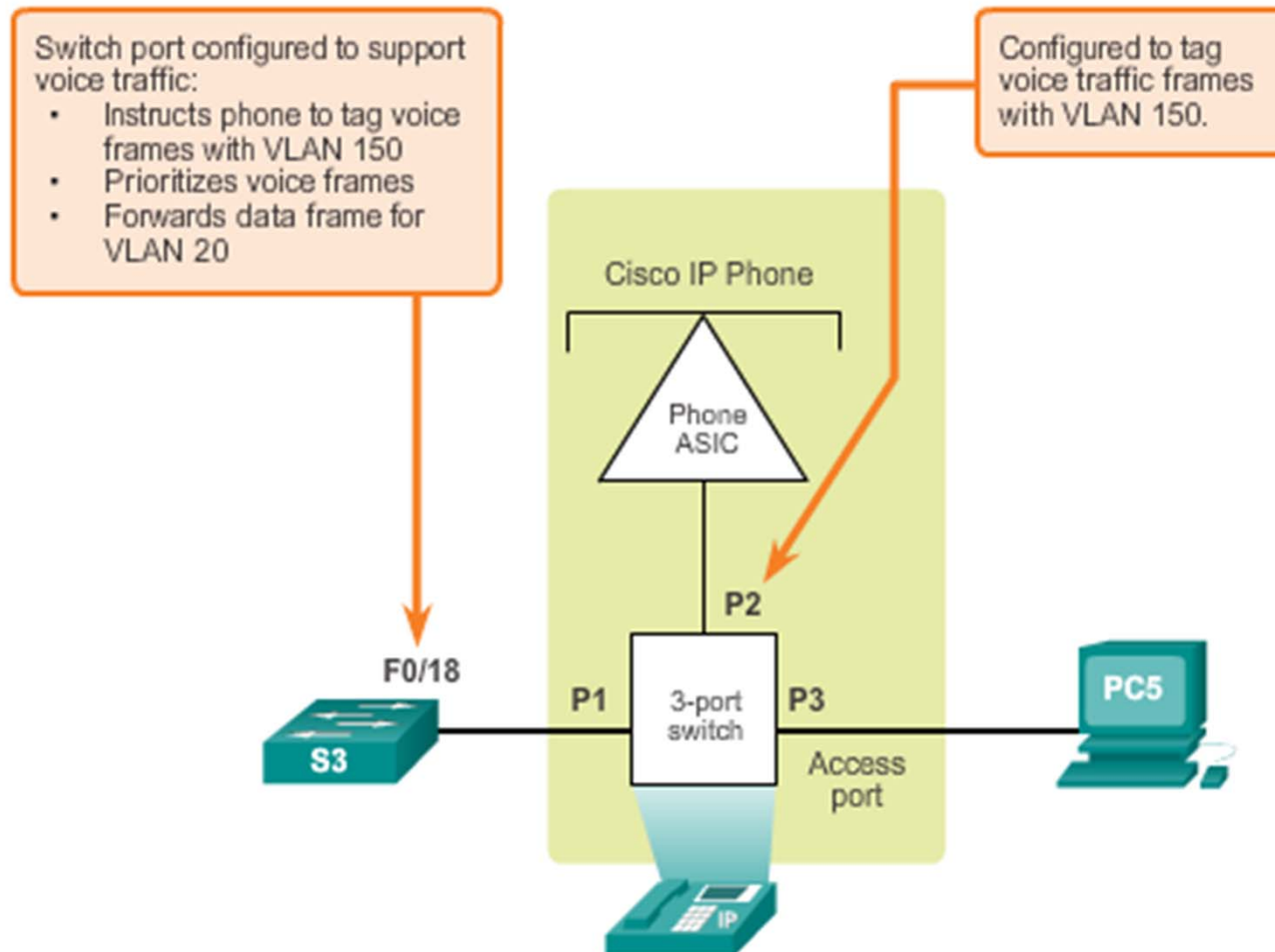| Ethernet Type(0X8100)	Pri	C	VLAN Identifier
2 Bytes	3 Bits	1 Bit	12 Bits

Native VLANs and 802.1Q Tagging

- Frames that belong to the native VLAN are not tagged.

- Frames received untagged remain untagged and are placed in the native VLAN when forwarded.

- If there are no ports associated to the native VLAN and no other trunk links, an untagged frame is dropped.

- In Cisco switches, the native VLAN is VLAN 1, by default.

Voice VLAN Tagging

Switch port configured to support voice traffic:
- Instructs phone to tag voice frames with VLAN 150
- Prioritizes voice frames
- Forwards data frame for VLAN 20

Configured to tag voice traffic frames with VLAN 150.

Cisco IP Phone

Phone ASIC

P2

F0/18

P1   3-port switch   P3

S3

PC5

Access port

IP

3.2 VLAN Implementations

VLAN Assignment
VLAN Ranges on Catalyst Switches

- Cisco Catalyst 2960 and 3560 Series switches support over 4,000 VLANs.

- VLANs are split into two categories:

  - Normal range VLANs

    - VLAN numbers from 1 to 1,005

    - Configurations stored in the vlan.dat (in the flash memory)

    - VTP can only learn and store normal range VLANs

  - Extended Range VLANs

    - VLAN numbers from 1,006 to 4,096

    - Configurations stored in the running configuration (NVRAM)

    - VTP does not learn extended range VLANs

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VLAN Assignment
Creating a VLAN

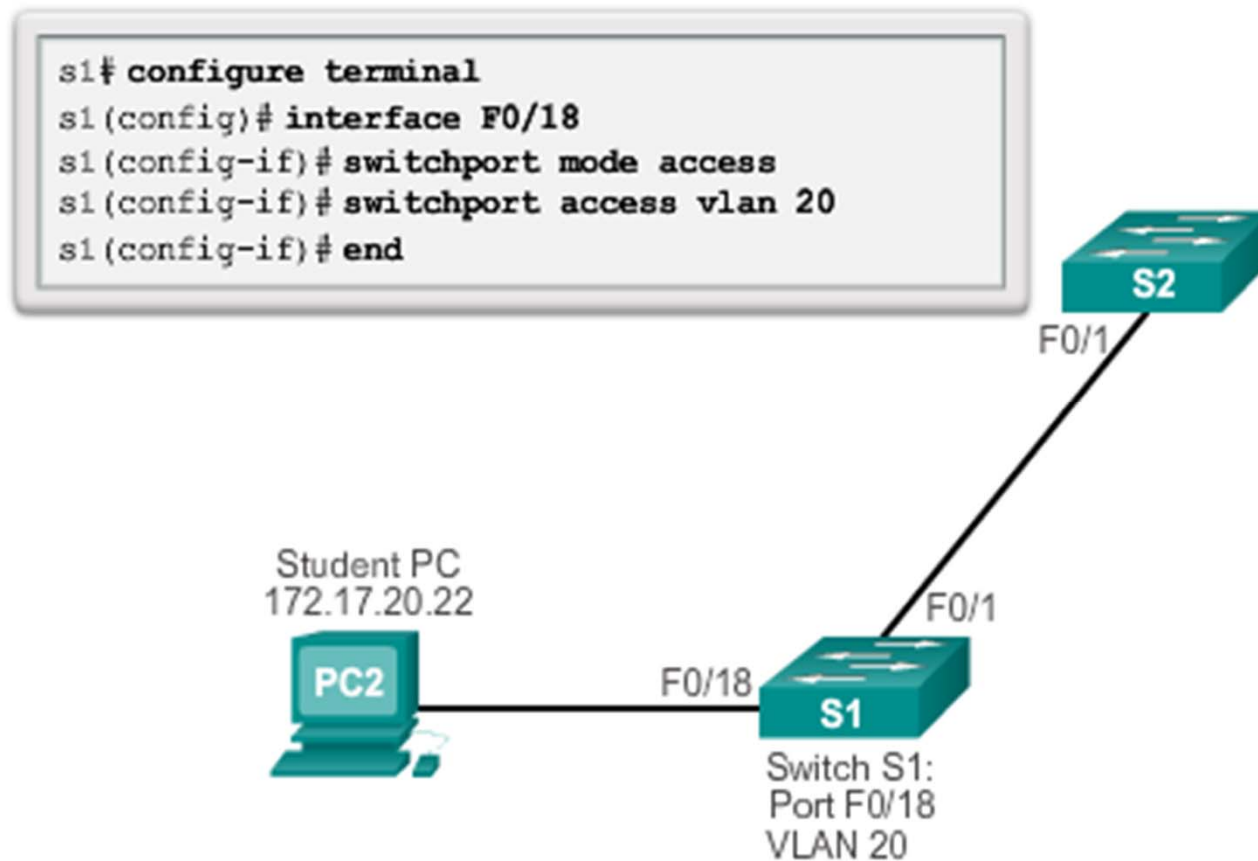| Cisco Switch IOS Commands	
Enter global configuration mode.	S1# **configure terminal**
Create a VLAN with a valid id number.	S1(config)# **vlan** vlan_id
Specify a unique name to identify the VLAN.	S1(config)# **name** vlan_name
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	S1(config)# **end**

Assigning Ports to VLANs

Cisco Switch IOS Commands

Enter global configuration mode.	S1 # **configure terminal**
Enter interface configuration mode for the SVI.	S1(config) # **interface** *interface_id*
Configure the management interface IP address.	S1(config) # **ip address 172.17.99.11**
Set the port to access mode.	S1(config-if) # **switchport mode access**
Assign the port to a VLAN.	S1(config-if) # **switchport access vlan** *vlan_id*
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	S1(config-if) # **end**

Assigning Ports to VLANs (cont.)

```
s1# configure terminal
s1(config)# interface F0/18
s1(config-if)# switchport mode access
s1(config-if)# switchport access vlan 20
s1(config-if)# end
```

S2

F0/1

Student PC
172.17.20.22

F0/1

PC2

F0/18

S1

Switch S1:
Port F0/18
VLAN 20

Changing VLAN Port Membership

```
S1(config)# int fa0/18
S1(config-if)# no switchport access vlan
S1(config-if)# end
S1# show vlan brief

VLAN Name                     Status   Ports
---- -------------------      -------  -------------------------------
1    default                  active   Fa0/1, Fa0/2, Fa0/3, Fa0/4
                                       Fa0/5, Fa0/6, Fa0/7, Fa0/8
                                       Fa0/9, Fa0/10, Fa0/11, Fa0/12
                                       Fa0/13, Fa0/14, Fa0/15, Fa0/16
                                       Fa0/17, Fa0/18, Fa0/19, Fa0/20
                                       Fa0/21, Fa0/22, Fa0/23, Fa0/24
                                       Gi0/1, Gi0/2
20   student                  active
1002 fddi-default             act/unsup
1003 token-ring-default       act/unsup
1004 fddinet-default          act/unsup
1005 trnet-default            act/unsup
S1#
```

Changing VLAN Port Membership (cont.)

```
S1# config t
S1(config)# int fa0/11
S1(config-if)# switchport mode access
S1(config-if)# switchport access vlan 20
S1(config-if)# end
S1#
S1# show vlan brief

VLAN Name                       Status      Ports
---- -------------------------- ---------   ---------------------------
1    default                    active      Fa0/1, Fa0/2, Fa0/3, Fa0/4
                                            Fa0/5, Fa0/6, Fa0/7, Fa0/8
                                            Fa0/9, Fa0/10, Fa0/12, Fa0/1
                                            Fa0/14, Fa0/15, Fa0/16, Fa0/
                                            Fa0/18, Fa0/19, Fa0/20, Fa0/
                                            Fa0/22, Fa0/23, Fa0/24, Gi0/
                                            Gi0/2
20   student                    active      Fa0/11
1002 fddi-default               act/unsup
1003 token-ring-default         act/unsup
1004 fddinet-default            act/unsup
1005 trnet-default              act/unsup
S1#
```

Deleting VLANs

```
S1# conf t
S1(config)# no vlan 20
S1(config)# end
S1#
S1# sh vlan brief

VLAN Name                       Status     Ports
---- --------------------       ---------  --------------------------------
1    default                    active     Fa0/1, Fa0/2, Fa0/3, Fa0/4
                                           Fa0/5, Fa0/6, Fa0/7, Fa0/8
                                           Fa0/9, Fa0/10, Fa0/12, Fa0/13
                                           Fa0/14, Fa0/15, Fa0/16, Fa0/17
                                           Fa0/18, Fa0/19, Fa0/20, Fa0/21
                                           Fa0/22, Fa0/23, Fa0/24, Gi0/1
                                           Gi0/2

1002 fddi-default               act/unsup
1003 token-ring-default         act/unsup
1004 fddinet-default            act/unsup
1005 trnet-default              act/unsup
S1#
```

Verifying VLAN Information

```
S1# show vlan name student

VLAN Name                                    Status    Ports
---- ----------------------------------- --------- --------------
20    student                                active    Fa0/11, Fa0/18


VLAN Type SAID MTU Parent RingNo BridgeNo Stp BrdgMode Trans1 Trans2
---- ----------------- ------ ------ -------- ---- -------- ------
20   enet 100020 1500  -       -      -        -    -        0      0


Remote SPAN VLAN
----------------
Disabled


Primary Secondary Type                 Ports
------- --------- ----------------- -----------------------


S1# show vlan summary
Number of existing VLANs            : 7
Number of existing VTP VLANs        : 7
Number of existing extended VLANS   : 0

S1#
```

Verifying VLAN Information (cont.)

```
S1# show interfaces vlan 20
vlan20 is up, line protocol is down
  Hardware is EtherSVI, address is 001c.57ec.0641 (bia
001c.57ec.0641)
  MTU 1500 bytes, BW 1000000 Kbit, DLY 10 usec,
      reliability 255/255, txload 1/255, rxload 1/255
  Encapsulation ARPA, loopback not set
  ARP type: ARPA, ARP Timeout 04:00:00
  Last input never, output never, output hang never
  Last clearing of "show interface" counters never
  Input queue: 0/75/0/0 (size/max/drops/flushes); Total output
drops: 0
  Queueing strategy: fifo
  Output queue: 0/40 (size/max)
  5 minute input rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
  5 minute output rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
     0 packets input, 0 bytes, 0 no buffer
     Received 0 broadcasts (0 IP multicast)
     0 runts, 0 giants, 0 throttles
     0 input errors, 0 CRC, 0 frame, 0 overrun, 0 ignored
     0 packets output, 0 bytes, 0 underruns
     0 output errors, 0 interface resets
     0 output buffer failures, 0 output buffers swapped out
```

Configuring IEEE 802.1q Trunk Links

Cisco Switch IOS Commands

Enter global configuration mode.	S1# **configure terminal**
Enter interface configuration mode.	S1(config)# **interface** *interface_id*
Force the link to be a trunk link.	S1(config-if)# **switchport mode trunk**
Specify a native VLAN for untagged 802.1Q trunks.	S1(config-if)# **switchport trunk native vlan** *vlan_id*
Specify the list of VLANs to be allowed on the trunk link.	S1(config-if)# **switchport trunk allowed vlan** *vlan-list*
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	S1(config-if)# **end**

```
S1(config)# interface FastEthernet0/1
S1(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
S1(config-if)# switchport trunk native vlan 99
S1(config-if)# switchport trunk allowed vlan 10,20,30
S1(config-if)# end
```

Resetting the Trunk To Default State

```
S1(config)# interface f0/1
S1(config-if)# no switchport trunk allowed vlan
S1(config-if)# no switchport trunk native vlan
S1(config-if)# end
S1# show interfaces f0/1 switchport
Name: Fa0/1
Switchport: Enabled
Administrative Mode: trunk
Operational Mode: trunk
Administrative Trunking Encapsulation: dot1q
Operational Trunking Encapsulation: dot1q
Negotiation of Trunking: On
Access Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Trunking Native Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Administrative Native VLAN tagging: enabled
<output omitted>
Administrative private-vlan trunk mappings: none
Operational private-vlan: none
Trunking VLANs Enabled: ALL
Pruning VLANs Enabled: 2-1001
<output omitted>
```

Resetting the Trunk To Default State (cont.)

Return Port to Access Mode

```
S1(config)# interface f0/1
S1(config-if)# switchport mode access
S1(config-if)# end
S1# show interfaces f0/1 switchport
Name: Fa0/1
Switchport: Enabled
Administrative Mode: static access
Operational Mode: static access
Administrative Trunking Encapsulation: dot1q
Operational Trunking Encapsulation: native
Negotiation of Trunking: Off
Access Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Trunking Native Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Administrative Native VLAN tagging: enabled
<output omitted>
```

VLAN Assignment
Verifying Trunk Configuration

```
S1(config)# interface f0/1
S1(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
S1(config-if)# switchport trunk native vlan 99
S1(config-if)# end
S1# show interfaces f0/1 switchport
Name: Fa0/1
Switchport: Enabled
Administrative Mode: trunk
Operational Mode: trunk
Administrative Trunking Encapsulation: dot1q
Operational Trunking Encapsulation: dot1q
Negotiation of Trunking: On
Access Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Trunking Native Mode VLAN: 99 (VLAN0099)
Administrative Native VLAN tagging: enabled
Voice VLAN: none
Administrative private-vlan host-association: none
Administrative private-vlan mapping: none
Administrative private-vlan trunk native VLAN: none
Administrative private-vlan trunk Native VLAN tagging: enabled
Administrative private-vlan trunk encapsulation: dot1q
Administrative private-vlan trunk normal VLANs: none
Administrative private-vlan trunk associations: none
Administrative private-vlan trunk mappings: none
Operational private-vlan: none
Trunking VLANs Enabled: ALL
Pruning VLANs Enabled: 2-1001
<output omitted>
```

Dynamic Trunking Protocol
Introduction to DTP

- Switch ports can be manually configured to form trunks.

- Switch ports can also be configured to negotiate and establish a trunk link with a connected peer.

- The Dynamic Trunking Protocol (DTP) manages trunk negotiation.

- DTP is a Cisco proprietary protocol and is enabled, by default, in Cisco Catalyst 2960 and 3560 switches.

- If the port on the neighbor switch is configured in a trunk mode that supports DTP, it manages the negotiation.

- The default DTP configuration for Cisco Catalyst 2960 and 3560 switches is dynamic auto.

Negotiated Interface Modes

- Cisco Catalyst 2960 and 3560 support the following trunk modes:

  - Switchport mode dynamic auto

  - Switchport mode dynamic desirable

  - Switchport mode trunk

  - Switchport nonegotiate

	Dynamic Auto	Dynamic Desirable	Trunk	Access
Dynamic auto	Access	Trunk	Trunk	Access
Dynamic desirable	Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Access
Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Limited connectivity
Access	Access	Access	Limited connectivity	Access

IP Addressing Issues with VLAN

- It is a common practice to associate a VLAN with an IP network.

- Because different IP networks only communicate through a router, all devices within a VLAN must be part of the same IP network to communicate.

- The figure displays that PC1 cannot communicate to the server because it has a wrong IP address configured.
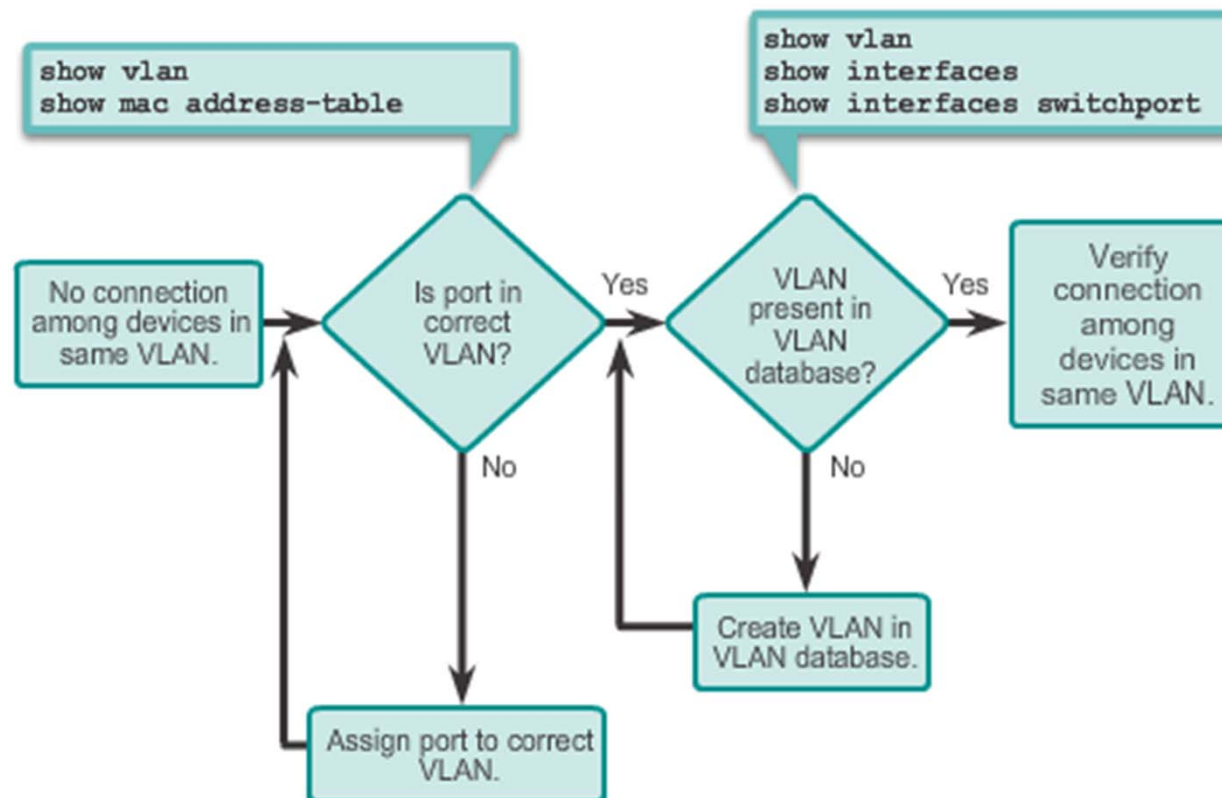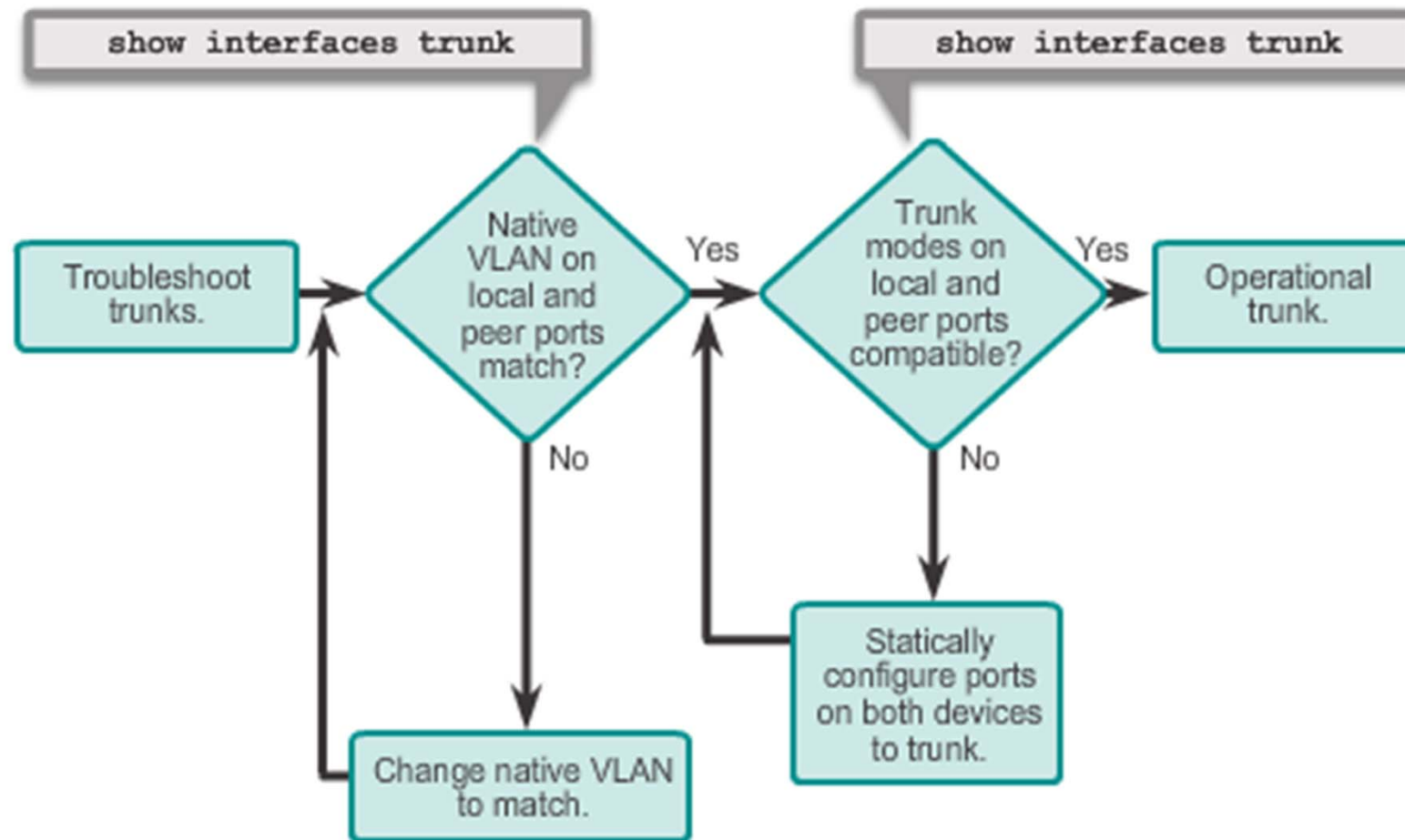
Missing VLANs

- If all the IP addresses mismatches have been solved, but the device still cannot connect, check if the VLAN exists in the switch.

Introduction to Troubleshooting Trunks

Common Problems with Trunks

- Trunking issues are usually associated with incorrect configurations.

- The most common type of trunk configuration errors are:

    1. Native VLAN mismatches

    2. Trunk mode mismatches

    3. Allowed VLANs on trunks

- If a trunk problem is detected, the best practice guidelines recommend to troubleshoot in the order shown above.

Trunk Mode Mismatches

- If a port on a trunk link is configured with a trunk mode that is incompatible with the neighboring trunk port, a trunk link fails to form between the two switches.

- Use the **show interfaces trunk** command to check the status of the trunk ports on the switches.

- To fix the problem, configure the interfaces with proper trunk modes.

	Dynamic Auto	Dynamic Desirable	Trunk	Access
Dynamic auto	Access	Trunk	Trunk	Access
Dynamic desirable	Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Access
Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Trunk	Limited connectivity
Access	Access	Access	Limited connectivity	Access

Incorrect VLAN List

- VLANs must be allowed in the trunk before their frames can be transmitted across the link.

- Use the **switchport trunk allowed vlan** command to specify which VLANs are allowed in a trunk link.

- Use the **show interfaces trunk** command to ensure the correct VLANs are permitted in a trunk.

3.3 VLAN Security and Design

Switch Spoofing Attack

- There are a number of different types of VLAN attacks in modern switched networks; VLAN hopping is one example.

- The default configuration of the switch port is dynamic auto.

- By configuring a host to act as a switch and form a trunk, an attacker could gain access to any VLAN in the network.

- Because the attacker is now able to access other VLANs, this is called a VLAN hopping attack.

- To prevent a basic switch spoofing attack, turn off trunking on all ports, except the ones that specifically require trunking.
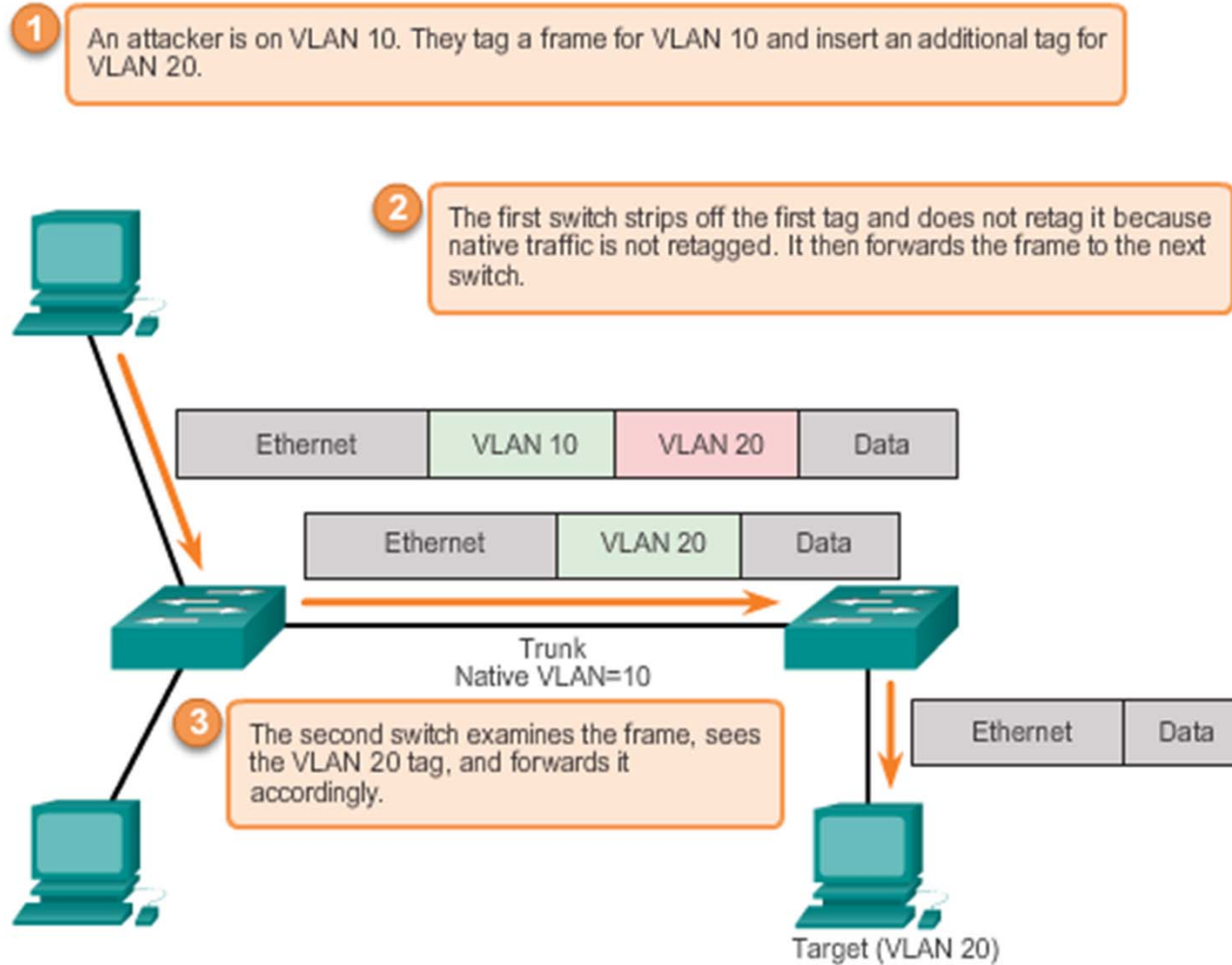
Double-Tagging Attack

- Double-tagging attack takes advantage of the way that hardware on most switches de-encapsulate 802.1Q tags.

- Most switches perform only one level of 802.1Q de-encapsulation, allowing an attacker to embed a second, unauthorized attack header in the frame.

- After removing the first and legit 802.1Q header, the switch forwards the frame to the VLAN specified in the unauthorized 802.1Q header.

- The best approach to mitigating double-tagging attacks is to ensure that the native VLAN of the trunk ports is different from the VLAN of any user ports.

Double-Tagging Attack (cont.)

1 An attacker is on VLAN 10. They tag a frame for VLAN 10 and insert an additional tag for VLAN 20.

2 The first switch strips off the first tag and does not retag it because native traffic is not retagged. It then forwards the frame to the next switch.

Ethernet	VLAN 10	VLAN 20	Data

Ethernet	VLAN 20	Data

Trunk
Native VLAN=10

3 The second switch examines the frame, sees the VLAN 20 tag, and forwards it accordingly.
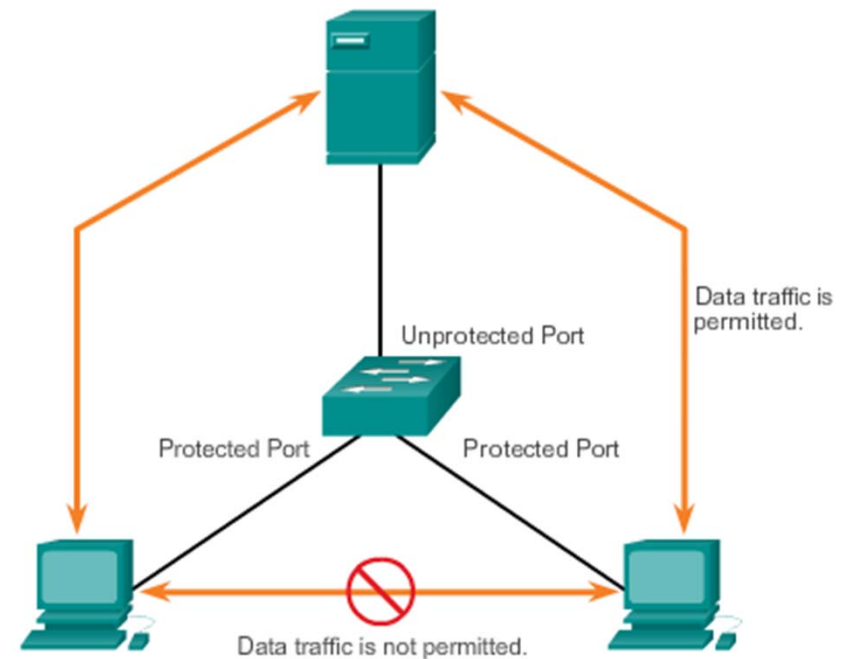
Ethernet	Data

Target (VLAN 20)

PVLAN Edge

- The Private VLAN (PVLAN) Edge feature, also known as protected ports, ensures that there is no exchange of unicast, broadcast, or multicast traffic between protected ports on the switch.

- Local relevancy only.

- A protected port only exchanges traffic with unprotected ports.

- A protected port does not exchange traffic with another protected port.

VLAN Design Guidelines

- Move all ports from VLAN 1 and assign them to a not-in-use VLAN

- Shut down all unused switch ports.

- Separate management and user data traffic.

- Change the management VLAN to a VLAN other than VLAN 1. (The same goes to the native VLAN.)

- Ensure that only devices in the management VLAN can connect to the switches.

- The switch should only accept SSH connections.

- Disable autonegotiation on trunk ports.

- Do not use the auto or desirable switch port modes.

Chapter 3: Summary

This chapter:

- Introduced VLANs and their types

- Described the connection between VLANs and broadcast domains

- Discussed IEEE 802.1Q frame tagging and how it enables differentiation between Ethernet frames associated with distinct VLANs as they traverse common trunk links.

- Examined the configuration, verification, and troubleshooting of VLANs and trunks using the Cisco IOS CLI and explored basic security and design considerations.