Compression

Compression aims to reduce the file size of digital files:

- to make them more efficient to store
- to make them quicker to transfer (FTP, e-mail, removable media)
    - avoids e-mail size limits
    - quicker download/upload
- so that they open more quickly
- reduces network congestion

Compression

Lossy compression - some data is lost

There is a trade off between file size and the quality of data - e.g. JPG, MP3

Lossless compression - data is not lost, but the file size is reduced - e.g. TIFF