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Topic	Computer Overview	Last updated on	20 June 2025

1. What is a computer?

- a. A type of calculator
- b. An electronic device that processes data and performs tasks according to instructions
- c. A piece of kitchen equipment
- d. A mechanical device for printing

**Answer: b. An electronic device that processes data and performs tasks according to instructions**

**Explanation:** A computer is an electronic device that processes data and performs tasks according to a set of instructions (software).

2. Which internal component is known as the "brain" of the computer?

- a. RAM
- b. Hard Drive
- c. CPU
- d. GPU

**Answer: c. CPU**

**Explanation:** The CPU (Central Processing Unit) is often referred to as the "brain" of the computer because it performs most of the processing tasks. It executes instructions from programs and manages other hardware components.



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3. What is the primary function of the motherboard in a computer?

- a. Store data
- b. Manage power supply
- c. Connect all internal components and allow them to communicate
- d. Provide internet connectivity

**Answer: c. Connect all internal components and allow them to communicate**

**Explanation:** The motherboard is the main circuit board that connects and allows communication between various internal components, such as the CPU, RAM, storage devices, and expansion cards.

4. Which component is responsible for providing temporary storage that the CPU uses to execute instructions?

- a. Hard Drive
- b. ROM
- c. RAM
- d. Power Supply

**Answer: c. RAM**

**Explanation:** RAM (Random Access Memory) provides temporary storage for data and instructions that the CPU needs while performing tasks. It allows quick read and write access to this data.



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5. Which internal part of the computer is used to store the operating system and applications permanently?

- a. RAM
- b. CPU
- c. Hard Drive
- d. Motherboard

**Answer: c. Hard Drive**

**Explanation:** The hard drive (or SSD in modern systems) is used for permanent data storage, including the operating system, applications, and user files.

6. Which internal component is responsible for connecting and managing data flow between various components of the computer?

- a. Power Supply
- b. Motherboard
- c. Cooling Fan
- d. RAM

**Answer: b. Motherboard**

**Explanation:** The motherboard is the central circuit board that connects and manages data flow between various components like the CPU, RAM, and storage devices, ensuring that they work together effectively.



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7. Which of the following is considered an external part of a computer?

- a. CPU
- b. Hard Drive
- c. Monitor
- d. RAM

**Answer: c. Monitor**

**Explanation:** The monitor is an external part of a computer because it is an output device that displays information from the computer. The CPU, Hard Drive, and RAM are internal components of the computer.

8. Which of the following external devices is used to print documents?

- a. Scanner
- b. Printer
- c. Monitor
- d. External Hard Drive

**Answer: b. Printer**

**Explanation:** A printer is an external device used to produce physical copies of documents and images from a computer. A scanner is used to digitize physical documents, the monitor displays visual output, and an external hard drive is used for additional storage.



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9. What is the purpose of a USB port on a computer?

- a. To display video output
- b. To connect peripherals and external devices
- c. To cool internal components
- d. To store data permanently

**Answer: b. To connect peripherals and external devices**

**Explanation:** A USB (Universal Serial Bus) port is used to connect various peripherals and external devices to a computer, such as keyboards, mice, printers, and external storage devices. It is not used for displaying output, cooling components, or storing data.

10. Which operation involves taking data from the user or other sources and entering it into the computer?

- a. Processing
- b. Storage
- c. Input
- d. Output

**Answer: c. Input**

**Explanation:** Input is the process of entering data into a computer system from various sources, such as keyboards, mice, or scanners. This data is then used for further processing.



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11. What operation is responsible for manipulating data based on instructions to perform tasks like calculations and data transformation?

- a. Storage
- b. Input
- c. Control
- d. Processing

**Answer: d. Processing**

**Explanation:** Processing involves the manipulation of data by the CPU according to the instructions from software programs. This can include performing calculations, making decisions, and managing data.

12. Which operation is performed when you save a file to a hard drive or SSD for future use?

- a. Control
- b. Output
- c. Input
- d. Storage

**Answer: d. Storage**

**Explanation:** Storage is the process of saving data and programs on storage devices like hard drives or SSDs. This ensures that data can be retrieved later.

13. When a computer displays a document on the screen or prints it out, which operation is being performed?



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- a. Input
- b. Processing
- c. Control
- d. Output

**Answer: d. Output**

**Explanation:** Output is the operation of presenting processed data to the user.  
This includes displaying information on monitors or printing documents.

14. Which operation coordinates the activities of input, processing, storage, and output in a computer system?

- a. Storage
- b. Processing
- c. Input
- d. Control

**Answer: d. Control**

**Explanation:** Control manages and directs the operations of the computer system. It oversees how input, processing, storage, and output are executed and ensures they are performed in the correct sequence.





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15. What happens during the processing operation of a computer?

- a. Data is entered into the computer
- b. Data is displayed or printed
- c. Data is manipulated according to instructions
- d. Data is stored on a hard drive

**Answer: c. Data is manipulated according to instructions**

**Explanation:** During processing, the CPU executes instructions to manipulate data. This could involve calculations, data analysis, or other operations based on the program's requirements.

16. Which operation involves directing the flow of data between different components of the computer system?

- a. Input
- b. Storage
- c. Control
- d. Output

**Answer: c. Control**

**Explanation:** The control operation directs and coordinates the flow of data between different parts of the computer system. It ensures that all operations—input, processing, storage, and output—are carried out correctly.





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17. When you make a backup of your files to an external drive, which operation are you performing?

- a. Input
- b. Processing
- c. Control
- d. Storage

**Answer: d. Storage**

**Explanation:** Creating a backup involves saving copies of your files to an external storage device. This is an example of the storage operation, ensuring that data is preserved and available for recovery if needed.

18. Which generation of computers is characterized by the use of vacuum tubes?

- a. First Generation
- b. Second Generation
- c. Third Generation
- d. Fourth Generation

**Answer: a. First Generation**

**Explanation:** The first generation of computers (1940s to 1950s) used vacuum tubes for circuitry and magnetic drums for memory. These computers were large, expensive, and consumed a lot of power.



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19. Which generation of computers introduced the use of transistors?

- a. First Generation
- b. Second Generation
- c. Third Generation
- d. Fourth Generation

**Answer: b. Second Generation**

**Explanation:** The second generation of computers (1950s to 1960s) used transistors instead of vacuum tubes. Transistors were smaller, more reliable, and more efficient, allowing computers to become more powerful and compact.

20. Which generation of computers is associated with the development of integrated circuits (ICs)?

- a. Second Generation
- b. Third Generation
- c. Fourth Generation
- d. Fifth Generation

**Answer: b. Third Generation**

**Explanation:** The third generation of computers (1960s to 1970s) saw the introduction of integrated circuits, which allowed for greater miniaturization and more efficient computing. ICs replaced transistors and made computers even smaller and more reliable.



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21. Which generation of computers is characterized by the use of microprocessors?

- a. First Generation
- b. Second Generation
- c. Third Generation
- d. Fourth Generation

**Answer: d. Fourth Generation**

**Explanation:** The fourth generation of computers (1970s to present) is characterized by the use of microprocessors, which are small chips containing thousands of integrated circuits. This generation led to the development of personal computers and significant advances in computing power and efficiency.

22. What technology is primarily associated with the fifth generation of computers?

- a. Vacuum Tubes
- b. Transistors
- c. Integrated Circuits
- d. Artificial Intelligence

**Answer: d. Artificial Intelligence**

**Explanation:** The fifth generation of computers (present and beyond) is associated with advances in artificial intelligence (AI), natural language processing, and advanced computing technologies. This generation aims to create machines that can understand, learn, and adapt to complex tasks.



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23. Which generation of computers is known for the introduction of personal computers (PCs)?

- a. First Generation
- b. Second Generation
- c. Third Generation
- d. Fourth Generation

**Answer: d. Fourth Generation**

**Explanation:** The fourth generation of computers is known for the introduction and proliferation of personal computers (PCs), which became widely accessible to individuals and businesses due to the development of microprocessors.

24. What is a key feature of computers in the third generation?

- a. Use of Artificial Intelligence
- b. Use of Microprocessors
- c. Use of Transistors
- d. Use of Integrated Circuits

**Answer: d. Use of Integrated Circuits**

**Explanation:** Computers in the third generation (1960s to 1970s) used integrated circuits (ICs), which greatly improved processing power and efficiency compared to earlier generations that used individual transistors.



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25. Which generation of computers focuses on advanced technologies such as quantum computing and nanotechnology?

- a. First Generation
- b. Second Generation
- c. Third Generation
- d. Fifth Generation

**Answer: d. Fifth Generation**

**Explanation:** The fifth generation of computers focuses on cutting-edge technologies such as quantum computing and nanotechnology, aiming to achieve higher levels of processing power, efficiency, and intelligent behavior.

26. What does a logic gate do in digital circuits?

- a. Stores data
- b. Performs arithmetic calculations
- c. Executes logic operations on binary inputs
- d. Transmits data over networks

**Answer: c. Executes logic operations on binary inputs**

**Explanation:** Logic gates are fundamental building blocks in digital circuits that perform logical operations (such as AND, OR, NOT) on binary inputs (0s and 1s) to produce a binary output. They are used to build more complex digital circuits and systems.



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27. How many bytes are there in 1 Kilobyte (KB)?

- a. 1000 bytes
- b. 1024 bytes
- c. 2048 bytes
- d. 8000 bytes

**Answer: b. 1024 bytes**

**Explanation:** In computer memory, 1 Kilobyte (KB) is equal to 1024 bytes. This is based on the binary system where  $1 \text{ KB} = 2^{10} \text{ bytes}$ . The decimal system would use 1000 bytes, but in computing, binary values are more commonly used.

28. What is the total number of bytes in 4 Megabytes (MB)?

- a. 4,000,000 bytes
- b. 4,194,304 bytes
- c. 4,000 bytes
- d. 4,096 bytes

**Answer: b. 4,194,304 bytes**

**Explanation:** 1 Megabyte (MB) is equal to 1024 Kilobytes (KB), and each Kilobyte is 1024 bytes. Therefore,  $4 \text{ MB} = 4 \times 1024 \times 1024 \text{ bytes} = 4,194,304 \text{ bytes}$ .



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29. How many bits are there in 1 byte?

- a. 4 bits
- b. 8 bits
- c. 16 bits
- d. 32 bits

**Answer: b. 8 bits**

**Explanation:** 1 byte is composed of 8 bits. Each bit can be either 0 or 1, and 8 bits make up a single byte.

30. How many bytes are there in 64 Kilobytes (KB)?

- a. 64,000 bytes
- b. 65,536 bytes
- c. 60,000 bytes
- d. 67,584 bytes

**Answer: b. 65,536 bytes**

**Explanation:** 1 Kilobyte (KB) is equal to 1024 bytes. Therefore, 64 KB = 64 × 1024 bytes = 65,536 bytes.





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31. If a file size is given as 500 MB, how many Kilobytes (KB) is this file?

- a. 500,000 KB
- b. 512,000 KB
- c. 1,000,000 KB
- d. 524,288 KB

**Answer: b. 512,000 KB**

**Explanation:** 1 Megabyte (MB) is equal to 1024 Kilobytes (KB). Therefore, 500 MB =  $500 \times 1024$  KB = 512,000 KB.

32. Which layer interacts directly with the hardware and provides the basic functions needed by the operating system?

- a. Hardware Layer
- b. Application Layer
- c. Network Layer
- d. Middleware Layer

**Answer: a. Hardware Layer**

**Explanation:** The Hardware Layer includes physical components like the CPU, memory, storage devices, and input/output devices. It provides the fundamental functionalities that the operating system and application layers rely on.



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33. Which layer in computer architecture provides a user interface and manages system resources?

- a. Application Layer
- b. Operating System Layer
- c. Hardware Layer
- d. Network Layer

**Answer: b. Operating System Layer**

**Explanation:** The Operating System (OS) layer manages system resources, provides a user interface, and facilitates communication between hardware and software. It includes functions like file management, memory management, and process scheduling.

34. Which layer of computer architecture includes device drivers and firmware that interface directly with hardware components?

- a. Application Layer
- b. Operating System Layer
- c. Hardware Layer
- d. Firmware Layer

**Answer: d. Firmware Layer**

**Explanation:** The Firmware Layer consists of device drivers and firmware that provide low-level control and management of hardware components. Firmware is embedded software that operates directly on hardware and is crucial for hardware functionality.



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35. Which type of computer is designed to handle a wide range of tasks and is commonly used in homes and offices?

- a. Supercomputer
- b. Mainframe
- c. Personal Computer
- d. Embedded System

**Answer: c. Personal Computer**

**Explanation:** Personal Computers (PCs) are versatile machines designed for general use, including tasks like word processing, internet browsing, and gaming. They are commonly found in homes and offices.

36. Which type of computer is typically used by large organizations for processing large volumes of transactions and running complex applications?

- a. Microcomputer
- b. Supercomputer
- c. Mainframe
- d. Laptop

**Answer: c. Mainframe**

**Explanation:** Mainframes are powerful computers used by large organizations for handling extensive data processing and complex applications. They are known for their high reliability, scalability, and processing power.



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37. Which type of computer is characterized by its extreme speed and computational power, often used for complex simulations and scientific research?

- a. Supercomputer
- b. Minicomputer
- c. Workstation
- d. Personal Computer

**Answer: a. Supercomputer**

**Explanation:** Supercomputers are extremely fast and powerful machines used for complex simulations, scientific calculations, and research. They have vast processing capabilities and are employed in fields such as climate modeling and quantum physics.

38. Which type of computer is typically built into other devices and performs specific functions within those devices?

- a. Workstation
- b. Embedded System
- c. Server
- d. Mainframe

**Answer: b. Embedded System**

**Explanation:** Embedded Systems are computers integrated into other devices to perform dedicated functions. Examples include microcontrollers in appliances, automotive systems, and smart devices.



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39. Which type of software is used to manage computer hardware?

- a. Application software
- b. Operating system
- c. Utility software
- d. Database software

**Answer: b. Operating system**

**Explanation:** The operating system (OS) manages hardware and software resources, providing a platform for application software.

40. Which of the following is an internal component of a computer?

- a. Monitor
- b. Keyboard
- c. Hard Disk Drive (HDD)
- d. Printer

**Answer: c. Hard Disk Drive (HDD)**

**Explanation:** HDD is an internal storage device inside the computer case.

41. Which operation of a computer involves entering data?

- a. Processing
- b. Storing
- c. Inputting
- d. Outputting

**Answer: c. Inputting**

**Explanation:** Inputting is the process of entering data into the computer using devices like keyboard or mouse.



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42. Which operation is responsible for displaying the results of computer processing?

- a. Inputting
- b. Processing
- c. Storing
- d. Outputting

**Answer: d. Outputting**

**Explanation:** Outputting is the process of delivering the processed information to the user via devices like monitors or printers.

43. Which device replaced vacuum tubes in the second generation of computers?

- a. Microprocessor
- b. Transistor
- c. Integrated Circuits
- d. Mechanical switches

**Answer: b. Transistor**

**Explanation:** Transistors replaced vacuum tubes, making Computers smaller, faster, and more reliable.

44. Which layer acts as a bridge for hardware to communicate with the system?

- a. Hardware layer
- b. Operating system layer
- c. Software layer
- d. User Interface

**Answer: b. Operating system layer**

**Explanation:** The operating system manages hardware resources and provides services for the system.



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45. Which layer would include programs like word processors and web browsers?

- a. Hardware layer
- b. Operating system layer
- c. Software layer
- d. User Interface

**Answer: c. Software layer**

**Explanation:** Applications like word processors and browsers are part of the software layer.

46. Which device is an external part of the computer?

- a. RAM
- b. CPU
- c. Mouse
- d. Motherboard

**Answer: c. Mouse**

**Explanation:** The mouse is an external input device connected outside the computer case.

47. Which internal part connects all the components of a computer?

- a. Hard Drive
- b. Motherboard
- c. Mouse
- d. Speaker

**Answer: b. Motherboard**

**Explanation:** The motherboard is the main circuit board connecting CPU, memory, and other hardware.





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48. Which operation controls the flow of data and instructions inside the computer?

- a. Inputting
- b. Controlling
- c. Storing
- d. Outputting

**Answer: b. Controlling**

**Explanation:** Controlling manages and coordinates all computer operations by the control unit inside the CPU.

49. The CPU mainly handles which operation?

- a. Storing
- b. Inputting
- c. Processing
- d. Outputting

**Answer: c. Processing**

**Explanation:** The CPU performs the actual processing of data and instructions.

50. Which generation is known for the introduction of personal computers (PCs)?

- a. Second
- b. Third
- c. Fourth
- d. Fifth

**Answer: c. Fourth**

**Explanation:** Personal computers became common in the fourth generation.



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51. What are the only two possible values in digital logic?

- a. -1 and 1
- b. 0 and 1
- c. True and False
- d. A and B

**Answer: b. 0 and 1**

**Explanation:** Digital logic operates using binary values: 0 (low) and 1 (high).

52. Which layer allows humans to interact with the computer?

- a. Hardware layer
- b. Operating system layer
- c. Software layer
- d. User Interface

**Answer: c. Software layer**

**Explanation:** Software provides applications and programs that  
Humans use computers to interact with computers.