

CLASS: JSS1

SUBJECT: BUSINESS STUDIES

WEEK: 8

TOPIC: COMPUTER AND PARTS

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

1. Meaning of Computer
2. Generations of Computers
3. Types of Computers
4. Classification of Computers
5. Parts of Computer

**Meaning of Computer:** Computer is an electronic machine that receives and process data in order to produce usable information. It can store, retrieve, edit and merge data or information.

### **Generations of Computers:**

1. **First Generation Computer (1943-1958):** the computer uses vacuum tubes as memory.
2. **Second Generation Computer (1959-1963):** the computer uses transistor as the computer circuits.
3. **Third Generation Computer (1964-1970):** this generation was characterized by further reduction of computer size, low cost and less power.
4. **Fourth Generation Computer (1971-1975):** computers were small and known as micro computers.
5. **Fifth Generation Computer (1975-1995):** the super micro computer which was an intelligent terminal for knowledge processing was developed.
6. **Sixth Generation Computer (1995 to date):** this generation is known as optic computer. The electron replaced the proton as the vehicle of information. Examples of sixth-generation devices include laptops, notebooks, and mobile phones. Characteristics of the sixth generation include network connectivity, automation, efficient data transfer, secure networking, etc.

### **Types of Computers:**

1. **Analogue Computers:** they are special computers that process data continuously without breaking it into numeric values. Examples car speedometer and thermometer.

2. Digital Computer: it operates on discrete data by counting numbers. Example wristwatches
3. Hybrid Computer: it performs the functions of both analogue and digital computers.

### **Classification of Computers:**

1. Super computers: They are the largest and not common now.
2. Mainframe computers: They are large and are found in business organizations.
3. Mini computers: They are general-purpose systems.They are smaller and less expensive than mainframe.
4. Minicomputers: They are home computer, personal computer, desktop computer, portable computer and laptop computer.

### **Parts of computer:**

1. The computer case or system unit
2. Motherboard
3. Central Processing Unit (CPU)
4. Random Access Memory (RAM)
5. Monitor or Visual Display Unit (VDU)
6. Keyboard
7. Mouse

Common peripheral components for computers

8. Printer
9. Scanner
10. Computer Speakers

### **1. The computer case or System unit**

This is the component that holds all of the parts to make up the computer system.It is usually designed in such a manner to make fitting a motherboard, wiring, and drives as easy as possible.

**2. Motherboard :** The motherboard is the main board that is screwed directly inside the computer case. All other cards and everything else plugs directly into the motherboard.

**3. Central Processing Unit (CPU):** This unit is basically like the brain of computer systems. It

processes all the information on a computational level. It takes all the processes from the RAM and processes them to perform the tasks required by the computer system.

**4. Random Access Memory (RAM):** RAM is a data storage device that can provide fast read and write access. RAM is volatile memory, meaning it loses all the stored data when power is lost.

**5. Monitor or Visual Display Unit (VDU):** A monitor is an output device used to visualize the graphics information sent from the computer

**6. Computer keyboard:** A keyboard is an input device that is one of the ways to communicate with a computer. Typing a key from the keyboard sends a small portion of information to tell the computer which key was pressed. Once the computer receives input from the keyboard, it can use the keystrokes in digital form to produce a specific task in any software that's being used.

**7. Computer Mouse:** A mouse is an input device that allows the user to move a pointer displayed on the monitor and experience a more intuitive interaction with computer system. mouse has three main buttons which allows the user to select, grab, scroll and access extra menus and options. Mouse can be wired or wireless with batteries.

**Other parts of computers are:**

**8. Computer Printer:** A printer can take an image sent by a computer and deliver it onto a sheet of paper.

**9. Scanner:** A scanner can take anything on paper, and it functions by scanning it to produce a replicated digital image for a computer to save.

**10. Computer Speakers:** Computer speakers can connect to the sound card at the rear of the computer. Some monitors has in built speakers. Generally, the sound quality is poor from a monitor's speakers. That's why most people buy a set of computer speakers for their used