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Preface

This book 'Vidya Bharti Param Computer' deals with the child friendly IT learning skills. The sole purpose of this series is to make the learning of Computer interesting and comprehensive for the young beginners.

Writing this book made me think a lot more than the material it covers, I considered different innovative ways to present the material and different design method. The language used to explain the contents is simple and lucid. Its practical approach towards the subject will make the computer learning a wonderful experience for the children. Colourful illustrations enhance the feel of learning computers even during their theory class.

In a nut shell, this series is totally dedicated to computer education of the primary students. Initially, when the task of writing the books was assigned by the revered **Sh. Surinder Attriji and Sh. Ravi Kumar ji** it was like a herculean task but by dint of efforts made by my colleagues it became possible to produce these books. We will welcome suggestions and feedback from the readers and teachers for further improvement of the series.

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Contents

S.No.	Chapter Name	Page No.
1.	Basics of Computer	04
2.	Computer Peripherals	11
3.	Advance MS Word	17
4.	MS PowerPoint	26
5.	Generations of Programming Languag	es 38
6.	Algorithm And Flow chart	45
7.	Working with Microsoft Publisher	53
8.	Working in MS Excel	61
9.	World Wide Web	68

Basics of Computer

Learning Objective

- Introduction to computer
- Characteristics of computer
- Limitations of a computer
- Uses of computer

Introduction to computer

Computer plays a vital role on our life. In today's world, we are totally dependent on computer. Computers are affecting our lives in one way or other. Railway reservation, airline reservation, movie ticket reservation telephone bills, electricity bills, banks, hospital – the list of computer usage is endless.

So knowledge of computers has become essential to keep pace with the fast developing 'Information and Technology' industry.

Charles Babbage developed the machine called Analytical Engine in 1832 which formed the basis for the modern computer. That's why, he is known as the father of modern computer.

What is computer

Computer is derived from a Latin word "compute" which means to "to calculate", "to count", "to sum up" or "to think together". So, more precisely the word computer means a "device that performs computation". A Computer is programmed device with a set of instructions to perform specific tasks and generate results at a very high speed. It is electronic device that processes data according to a set of instructions.



Characteristics of computer

It is difficult to imagine a world without computers. This technology has totally changed the way of performing the action. The characteristics of computers that have made them so powerful and universally useful are speed, accuracy, diligence, versatility and storage capacity. Let us discuss them briefly.

Speed: Computers work at an incredible speed. A powerful computer is capable of performing about 3-4 million simple instructions per second.

Accuracy: In addition to being fast, computers are also accurate. Errors that may occur can almost always be attributed to human error (inaccurate data, poorly designed system or faulty instructions/programs written by the programmer)

Diligence: Unlike human beings, computers are highly consistent. They do not suffer from human traits of boredom and tiredness resulting in lack of concentration. Computers, therefore, are better than human beings in performing voluminous and repetitive jobs.

Versatility: Computers are versatile machines and are capable of performing any task as long as it can be broken down into a series of logical steps. The presence of computers can be seen in almost every sphere – Railway/Air reservation, Banks, Hotels, Weather forecasting and many more.

Storage Capacity: Today's computers can store large volumes of data. A piece of information once recorded (or stored) in the computer, can never be forgotten and can be retrieved almost instantaneously.

Major advantages of computer system are:

- High data processing speed
- High storage capacity
- * Diligence
- * Versatility
- * Accuracy
- No feelings

No feelings: A computer is an electronic machine. It has no feelings. It performs operations on the basis of instructions given to it. Computer cannot make decision/judgments on their own.

Limitations of a computer

A computer has many advantages, but in spite of these it has many disadvantages too. Some of these disadvantages or limitations are:

No emotions It has no emotions and feelings.

No learning It has no learning power. Its knowledge and working

capability are limited to the programs installed in it.

Self care A computer cannot care for itself like human. It is still

dependent on human beings for this purpose.

Dependent on electricity The computer cannot work without electricity. A computer

is dependent on electricity or any other source of power

like battery.

Zero IQ A computer can play complete the task it has been

instructed for. It has no intelligence, it cannot make

decisions.

Uses of Computers:

Computers have become an essential part of modern human life. Since the invention of computer they have evolved in terms of increased computing power and decreased size. Owing to the widespread use of computers in every sphere, Life in today's world would be unimaginable without computers. They have made human lives better and



happier. There are many computer uses in different fields of work. Engineers, architects, jewelers, and film makers all use computers to design things. Teachers, writers, and most office workers use computers for research, word processing and emailing. Small businesses can use computers as a point of sale and for general record keeping.

Computers Aid at Education:

Computers have its dominant use in the education field which can significantly enhance performance in learning. Even distance learning is made productive and effective through internet and video-based classes.

Computer Application in Education



Researchers have massive usage of these computers in their work from the starting to till the end of their scholarly work.

Computers in our Health and Medicine:

Most of the medical information can now be digitized from the prescription to reports. Computation in the field of medicine allows us to offer varied miraculous therapies to the patients. ECG's, radiotherapy wasn't possible without computers.

Aid of Computers at Financial Institutions:

We know well that computers are being used by the financial institutions like banks for different purposes. The foremost important thing is to store information about different account holders in a database to be available at any time. Keeping the records of the cash flow, giving the information regarding your account,



Banking

Computers for our Pass time:

Computers are now the major entertainers and the primary pass time machines. We can use computers for playing games, watching movies, listening to music, drawing pictures.

Computers are a part of our Transport System:

With internet on computers we can know the details of the buses or trains or the flight available to our desired destination. The timings and even the updates on the delay can also be known through these computers. We can book our tickets through online. Staff of the transport system will keep a track of the passengers, trains or flight details, departure and arrival timings by using computers.

Inevitable use of Computers in Business and Corporate Stages:

Every single information shared can be recorded by using computer. Official deals and the issues were made even through online. We use email system to exchange the information. It has wide uses in marketing, stock exchanges and bank. Even the departmental stores can't run effectively without computer.

Wonders of Computer in E-Commerce:

Electronic mail is the revolutionary service offered by the computes. Video Conferencing is also another major advantage. Electronic shopping through online shopping added favor to purchaser and merchants. Electronic banking is now at your hand where every bank has online support for transaction of monetary issues. You can easily transfer your money anywhere even from your home.

Computer at our Defense:

Computers are the main tools which help in developing missiles and other equipment in the deference system. Designing and the maintenance are possible only through computers. Computer builds the links between the soldiers and commanders through the satellite. Construction of weapons and controlling their function is not possible without the aid of computers. The list of the criminals and the records of the cops are maintained regularly in the system.

Computer is today's Designer:

As per the title, computers aid in designing buildings, magazines, prints, newspapers, books and many others. The construction layouts are designed beautifully on system using different tools and software's.



- Computer is electronic device that processes data according to a set of instructions.
- A powerful computer is capable of performing about 3-4 million simple instructions per second.
- Computers are better than human beings in performing voluminous and repetitive jobs.
- Computer has no learning power. Its knowledge and working capability are limited to the programs installed in it.
- Computers have its dominant use in the education field which can significantly enhance performance in learning.
- With internet on computers we can know the details of the buses or trains or the flight available to our desired destination.

Fill in the blanks:

1.	Computer is electronic device that processes data according to a set of
	·
2.	Distance learning is made productive and effective through and
3.	is now at your hand where every bank has online
	support for transaction of monetary issues.
4.	Computer has no and feelings.
5.	Errors that may occur can almost always be attributed to

State True or False:

- 1. Computers suffer from human traits of boredom and tiredness resulting in lack of concentration.
- 2. We cannot use computers for playing games, watching movies, listening to music, drawing pictures.
- 3. Computer has no learning power. Its knowledge and working capability are limited to the programs installed in it.
- 4. Computer can take decision on its own.
- 5. It has wide uses in marketing, stock exchanges and bank.

Short answer type questions.

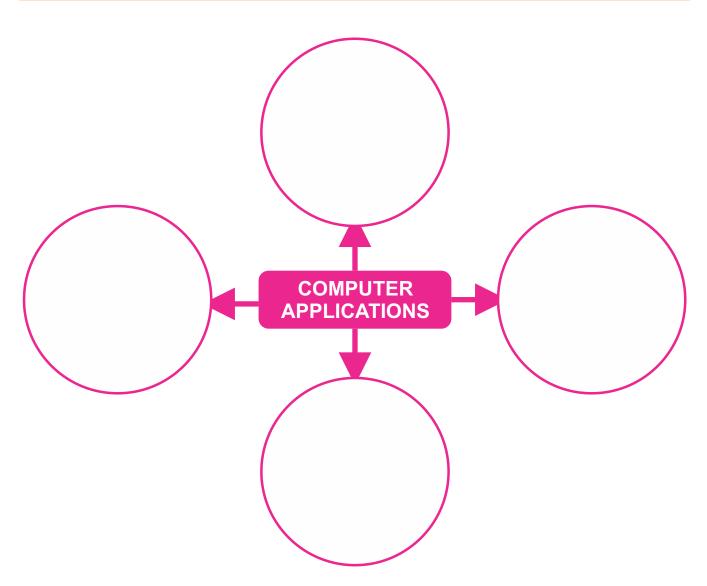
- 1. What is computer?
- 2. What is the role of computer in the defense?
- 3. Write any three limitations of computer.

Long answer type questions:

- 1. Explore the various applications of computer in the field of education.
- 2. Write any five characteristics of computer.
- 3. Describe the areas in which man is better than computer.
- 4. What is the role of computer in E-commerce?

ACTIVITY TIME

Divide the class into four groups. Explore the application areas of the computer with your group mates. Discuss also with the other groups to explore the new areas.



Write any four applications of Computers.