## Introduction to Computers

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By the end of this topic, learners should be able to:

- Identify and label key hardware components of a computer.
- List examples of application and system software
- Describe the difference between hardware and software.
- Explain how ICT is used in everyday environments.
- Differentiate between input, output, processing, and storage devices.

### What is a Computer?

A computer is an **electronic device** that receives **input**, processes it, gives **output**, and stores the results for future use.

#### **Functions of a Computer**

- 1) Input: Entering data (keyboard, mouse)
- 2) Processing: CPU handles data
- 3) **Output**: Displaying results (monitor, printer)
- 4) Storage: Saving information (hard drive, USB)



#### **IPOS Model Explanation**





# Activity: Labeling the IPOS Cycle

Activity on moodle



#### Hardware Components

Hardware refers to the physical parts of a computer system that you can see and touch.

1) **Input Devices**: Allow users to enter data (e.g., keyboard, mouse, scanner).

2) **Output Devices**: Display or produce results (e.g., monitor, printer, speakers).

3) **Processing Device**: The **CPU** is the "brain" of the computer that performs tasks and calculations.

4) **Storage Devices**: Save data for future use (e.g., hard drive, USB, SSD).

**Example**: Clicking a song (input), CPU plays it (processing), sound comes from speakers (output), and the file is saved (storage).





#### Activity: Matching Devices to Functions

Activity on moodle.

#### Software Components

Computers run using two main types of software: **system software** and **application software**. Both are essential, but they serve different purposes.

1) **System Software**: This software manages the computer's hardware and system operations. It runs in the background and makes it possible for other software to function. **Examples**: Operating systems (Windows, macOS), drivers, and utility programs.

2) **Application Software**: This software is designed for users to perform specific tasks. It runs on top of system software. **Examples:** MS Word, Excel, Google Chrome, Zoom...



#### Uses of ICT

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays a vital role in modern life. It improves efficiency, communication, and access to information in many fields.

In education, online learning platforms (e.g., Google Classroom, Zoom). Digital textbooks and resources.

In business, Email, video meetings, and cloud storage, online shopping & automated systems.

ICT helps people learn better, work smarter, and live healthier through faster communication and access to information.



# THANKS

