

Teacher's Note

- Collect several computer magazines for your students to use and some weekend newspapers. They often have large sections of information about computers. These will also give you an idea of the cost and types of computers available.

Task 1. You may like to research this subject yourself to make a comparison of how much information the students have researched.

Suggested answers & ideas task 1.

Mainframe computers were the earlier computers, they were very large. Some could fill a classroom. Mainframe computers were installed e.g. head offices of banks or electricity companies. Mainframe computers took a long time to build and were difficult to repair. 1960's The integrated circuit replaced hundreds of electronic parts in one small silicon chip. The mainframe computers became smaller, more like the size of a cupboard. They called them minicomputers. 1971 First microprocessor made by an American company. Thousands of different parts combined became the integrated circuit. Soon microcomputers were in use. These fitted on a desk. Early personal computers (PC's) could not do as much as mainframes or minicomputers but they were thought to be suitable for most people at home, work or school at that time.

Task 2.

Because the computer market changes continuously it is difficult to give accurate answers.

Suggested Activities:

- ❖ Sometimes a computer technology display goes on exhibition in certain areas. An outing to one of these would be ideal.
- ❖ Maybe you know someone who repairs or sells computers who might like to give a short talk to the students in class.
- ❖ Search the Internet for details if you have that facility on the computer in your classroom. You might be pleasantly surprised to see how much information is available. <http://www.howstuffworks.com/>
- ❖ Make a large display poster to hang on the wall displaying cut-outs and pictures of computers, hardware and software. Write a short fact-box next to these pictures. Students will enjoy making these posters.
- ❖ Make a collage using only computer related pictures. Have the students collect the pictures from newspapers and magazines over a short period of time before starting the project.

Learning Area: T&E. **Strands:** TP, I, S. **Substrands:** TP1,2. I1,2. S1.

Overarching: 1,2,3,5,6,7,10,11,12,13. **Linking Learning Area:** Eng.