**Programming in the World Today**

Many electronics today not only have to be physically built, but programmed using computers. Many electronics you use are, indeed, programmed. Your computer, cell phone, cars, traffic lights, websites, tablets, and even the computers themselves had a team of people program these devices, along with millions of others. How so? When you check your phone for the time, how does it know and display what time it is? When you plug a mouse into a computer and use it almost immediately, how does it know you plugged something in and get it working for you? When you press a button to start the radio in the car, how does it know that the button was pressed? All of these things, among others, need to be programmed into the device. What is meant by programmed? Programming is giving a computer or device a set of instructions for an automatic performance of a task. Basically, programmers write these instructions for devices so that they know what, when and how to do something. In today’s modern world, this has become very important that everyone is affected by, whether they know or not. Programming has modernized the world by creating new electronics that are smart and know what to do when something happens. Programming must be done efficiently and correctly, however, otherwise trouble can occur. For instance, if traffic lights were not programmed properly, certain lights could turn green when they are not supposed to, causing many problems! This is why knowing and understanding how programming works is very important and a necessity today. The first step towards becoming a programmer is knowing what programming is and the basic functionalities of how it works.