* Topic: Historic Overview of Computers
* Course Overview: Exploration of computing concepts and technologies, from basic components to advanced systems, without focusing on programming.
  + So in this series, we’re going break down those layers, and build up from simple 1’s and 0’s, to logic units, CPUs, operating systems, the entire internet and beyond
* Impact of Computing: Computers have become essential for various aspects of modern life, from infrastructure operation to scientific advancement.
* Historical Evolution: Computing devices have evolved over time, from the abacus and astrolabe to electronic computers.
* Definition of "Computer": Initially a job title for human calculators, the term "computer" gradually shifted to refer to devices in the 1800s.
* Gottfried Leibniz's Step Reckoner: A mechanical calculator that automated addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division operations.
* Pre-computed tables:
  + Used for tasks like finding square roots.
  + Faster and more accurate than hand calculations.
  + Especially important for military applications like artillery firing.
* Babbage's Difference Engine: A proposed mechanical device for approximating polynomials, never fully constructed.
* The Analytical Engine:
  + More complex than the Difference Engine.
  + General-purpose computer, not limited to one task.
  + Had memory and a primitive printer.
  + Never fully built but inspired future generations.
* Ada Lovelace: Wrote hypothetical programs for the Analytical Engine, considered the world's first programmer.
* Punch Card Tabulation: Herman Hollerith's electro-mechanical machine used punch cards to efficiently process data for the 1890 US census.