

Short Questions

Q 1: What is Main Memory?

Ans: Main Memory:

Main memory is most important part of computer used to store data and instructions that are currently is used. It is very fast but limited in capacity. A computer can not work without main memory.

Q 2: What is RAM?

Ans: RAM:

RAM stands for random access memory. It is a primary storage device used to store the data and instructions temporarily. When the power is turned off, the instructions in RAM is lost. Thus it is called volatile memory.

Q 3: What are the characteristics of RAM?

Ans: Characteristics of RAM:

Main characteristics of RAM are given below

- (i) The contents of the memory are lost when the electricity supply is cut off so the main memory is volatile.
- (ii) CPU can read and write information from RAM, so it is called read write memory.
- (iii) Any part of RAM can be directly accessed, so it called Random Access memory.
- (iv) It has fast speed.

Q 4: What is DRAM?

Ans: DRAM:

DRAM stands for Dynamic Random Access Memory. DRAM is the most commonly used technology to build RAM chips. In order to maintain data in DRAM chip, the chip is refreshed frequently, otherwise data may be lost. DRAM is slow in speed.

Q 5: What is SRAM?

Ans: SRAM:

SRAM stands for Static Random Access Memory. SRAM is faster and expensive more than DRAM and it does not need to be refreshed. It is normally used to build a very fast memory known as cache memory.

Q 6: What is cache memory?

Ans: CACHE MEMORY:

A cache is a small and very fast memory. It is designed to speed up the transfer of data and instructions. It is faster than RAM. The data and instructions that are most frequently used by CPU are stored in cache memory.

Q 7: What is ROM?

Ans: ROM:

ROM stands for Read Only Memory. The manufacturer of ROM writes the data and program permanently into it and this data and program can not be changed. So it is called read only memory. ROM is also called non volatile memory because when the power is switched off, the instructions stored in ROM are not lost.

Q 8: What is PROM?

Ans: PROM:



PROM stands for Programmable Read Only Memory. It is initially blank chip and the user can write his own data and program on it by using special devices. Once a instructions are written on it can not be changed or altered.

Q 9: What is EPROM?

Ans: EPROM:

EPROM stands for Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory. It is initially blank chip and the user can write his own data and program on it by using special devices. Unlike PROM, a user can changed or altered the data by using ultraviolet rays.

Q 10: What is EEPROM?

Ans: EEPROM:

EEPROM stands for Electronically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory. In this memory, user can erased and write instructions with the help of electrical pulses. The contents of EEPROM can be modified easily.

Q 11: What is memory measuring chart?

Ans: Following is a list of memory measuring units.

1 Nibble	=	4 bits
1 Byte	=	8 bits
1 KB (Kilo Bytes)	=	1024 bytes = 2^{10} bytes
1 MB(Mega Byte)	=	1024 KB = 2^{20} bytes
1 GB (Giga Byte)	=	1024 bytes = 2^{30} bytes
1 TB (Terabyte)	=	1024 bytes = 2^{40} bytes

Q 12: What is secondary memory?

Ans: Secondary Memory:

Secondary memory is also called permanent memory or auxiliary memory. It is inexpensive, slow in speed and large storage capacity as compared to primary memory. The storage capacity in GB. Secondary storage devices are also used for backup of data.

Q 13: What is floppy disk?

Ans: Floppy Disk:

Floppy means soft. Floppy disk is also called diskette. A floppy disk is made of flexible plastic, which is coated with magnetic oxide. A floppy disk is enclosed in plastic jacket. It is mostly used for transferring data between computers and backup of data. It has low capacity, and is very slow as compared to other storage devices. Floppy disks come in different sizes but today the most common size is 3.5 inches diameter.

Q 14: What is Hard disk?

Ans: Hard Disk:

Hard disk is also called fixed disk. It is a permanent storage device. A hard disk is made up of more than one metal platter with magnetic coating on both sides. Each platter is coated with iron oxide.

Q 15: What is Data rate?

Ans: Data Rate:

The data rate is the number of bytes per second that the drive can read and delivers to the CPU. The data rate of hard disk is normally between 5 to 40 megabytes per second.

Q 16: What is Seek Time?

Ans: Seek Time:

The time is used to move the head to the appropriate track after reading the address is called seek time.

Q 17: What is Rotational Delay?

Ans: Rotational Delay:

When the head reaches the required track, the read/write head has to wait for some time so that the required sector comes under it due to the rotation of the platter. This delay is called Rotational delay.

Q 18: What is Transfer Delay?

Ans: Transfer Delay:

When the appropriate sector comes under the read/write head, it reads the data from the disk and sends this data to the processor. The time consumed in this process is called the transfer delay.

Q 19: What is low level formatting?

Ans: Low Level Formatting:

In low-level formatting, a drive marks the tracks and sectors on the disk. Usually this is done by the manufacturer of the disk. In this process the starting and ending points of each sector are written onto the disk/platter. This process prepares the disk to hold data.

Q 20: What is high level formatting?

Ans: High Level Formatting:

In high-level formatting, the information about file-storage is written onto the disk called file-allocation table (FAT). It means the file allocation table is created on the disk. This process also prepares the disk to hold data.

Q 21: What is compact disk?

Ans: Compact Disk:

The most widely used storage devices are the optical storage devices. The most prominent optical storage system is compact disk (CD). These disks are approximately 5 inches in diameter and consist of reflective material. The media which is used to store information on a CD is LASER. The storage capacity of CD is more than 700 MB.

Q 22: What is magnetic tape?

Ans: Magnetic Tape:

Magnetic tape is the most popular and oldest secondary storage used to store large amount of data and instructions permanently. The magnetic tape is a plastic ribbon and one side coated with magnetic recording material.