

Noun Analysis – Vending Machine

Consider a simplified vending machine, which is used to dispense soft drinks. The vending machine consists of a coin slot for inserting coins, a return tray for returning the customer's money and three buttons used to select Pepsi (tm), Coke (tm) or Fanta (tm). If the customer inserts coins and does not press a button within one minute, the coins will be returned automatically (no coin-return lever). If the customer selects a beverage which is out-of-stock (none left), the coins will also be returned.

This vending machine does not provide change - it is up to the customer to insert only enough money to purchase a drink. If sufficient coins are inserted and a button with available beverages is pressed, the appropriate drink is dispensed, the corresponding button is illuminated for five seconds, and the coin slot moves the coins to the general storage area (i.e. the purchase has finished).