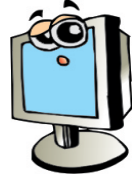


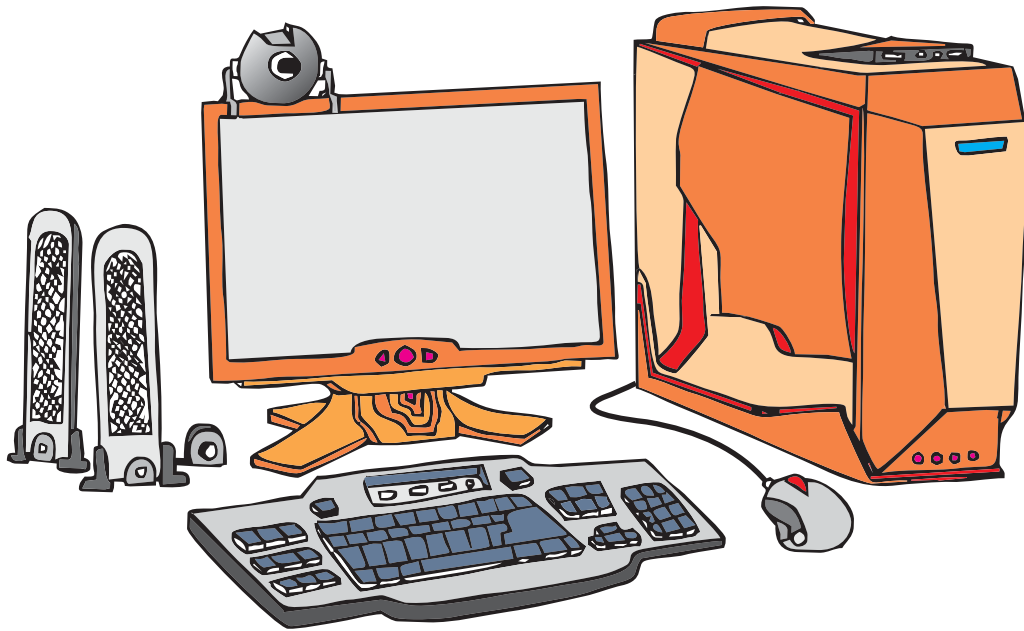
Lesson 10



UNIQUELY POWERFUL Kinds of Computers



A computer, no matter how big or small can do the same basic functions. With the technology nowadays, computers are in several kinds. The types of computers are dependent on the nature of the work that computers have to do.



Kinds of computer

1. Supercomputer
2. Mainframe
3. Minicomputer
4. Microcomputer

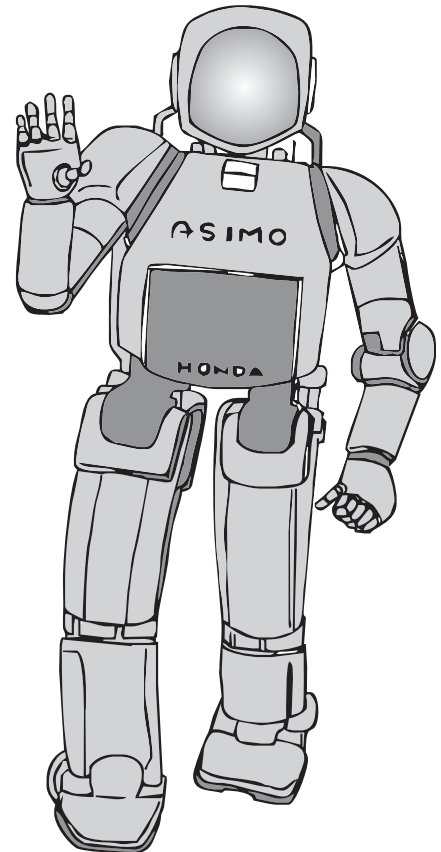
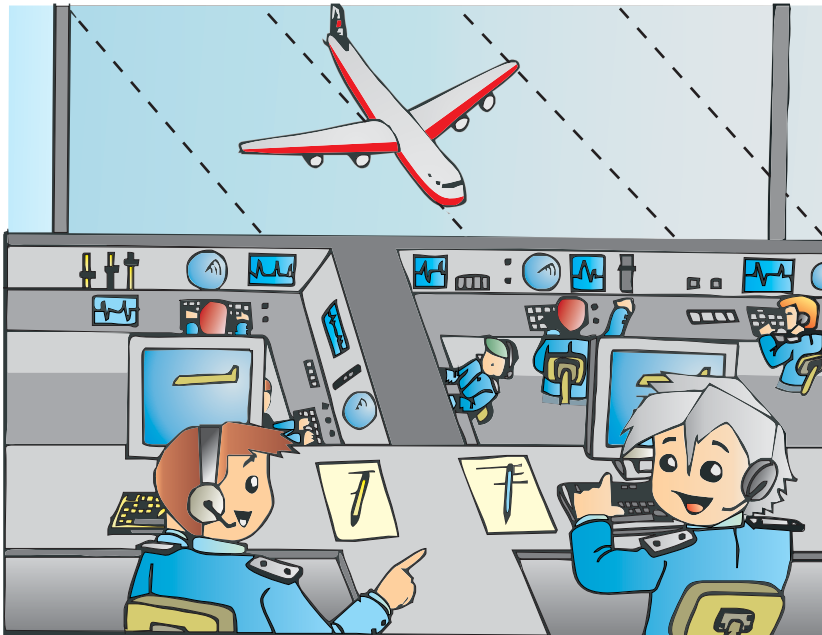
Find out what are these kinds of computer do. Are they all the same? In what ways do they differ from one another?

Supercomputer

A supercomputer is a computer developed to perform more complicated tasks with more compact integrated circuits. This kind of computer is used in large applications, such as National Defense for the military and computer-aided designs. It is also used to control big machines with robots in the system.

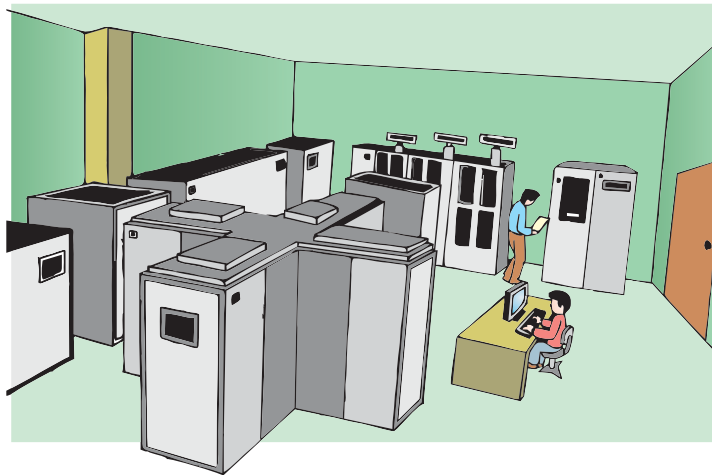
The following fields of Science employ the use of supercomputer.

1. Nuclear Weapons
2. Satellites
3. Weather Forecasting
4. Space Exploration
5. Robotics



Mainframe

Mainframe is the next largest kind of computer. It is also big and expensive like the supercomputer because it can perform work faster, more than one smaller computer or the minicomputer can do. It is actually used for the central processing unit of a large computer. For example are the ATM's of banks nowadays.



ATM's are connected to a mainframe. Under normal circumstances, the mainframe can process any ATM transaction processed by the depositor, whether withdrawal or deposit.



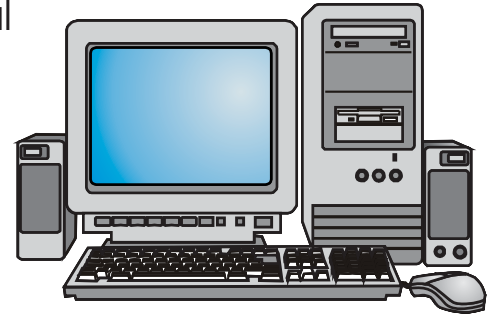
Minicomputer

A minicomputer is smaller compared to the mainframe. It is useful in a multi-user system wherein several computers are connected, sharing their devices and information.



Microcomputers

A microcomputer is also known as personal computer (PC). It is commonly used because of its small size; thus, making it handy to carry and transport any time. Microcomputer, although small, is a powerful low-costing computer that contains a microprocessor.



These are the kinds of computer which are commonly used in schools, homes and in Internet café.

Two classifications of microcomputers

1. **Mobile Computers** – are computers that can be easily carried around. They are light and relatively small in sizes.



Slate PC



Tablet PC



Notebook
Computer



Palmtop Computer



Laptop
Computer

2. **Desktop Computers** – are computers placed on top of the desks or tables. They are the common types of computers that we see almost everywhere.

