Ingles

1 Computing

Computing is the study of how computers and computer systems work and how they are constructed and programmed. Its primary aspects of theory, systems and applications are drawn from the disciplines of Technology, Design, Engineering, Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Social Sciences. Computer science has many sub-fields; some emphasize the computation of specific results (such as computer graphics), while others relate to properties of computational problems (such as computational complexity theory). Stillothers focus on the challenges in implementing computation.

2 What are computers?

Computers are machines that perform tasks or calculations according to a set of instructions, or programs. The first fully electronic computers, introduced in the 1940s, were huge machines that required teams of people to operate. Compared to those early machines, today’s computers are amazing. Not only they are thousands of times faster, they can fit on your desk, in your lap, or even in your pocket. Computers work through an interaction of hardware and software. Hardware refers to the parts of a computer that you can see and touch, including the case and everything inside it. The most important piece of hardware is a tiny rectangular chip inside your computer called the central processing unit, or microprocessor. It’s the “brain” of your computer—the part that translates instructions and performs calculations. Hardware items such as your monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer, and other components are often called hardware devices, or devices. Software refers to the instructions, or programs, that tell the hardware what to do. A word processing program that you can use to write letters on your computer is a type of software. The operating system (OS) is a software that manages your computer and the devices connected to it. Two well-known operating systems are Windows and Macintosh operating system. Probably your computer uses the Windows operating system.

3 The web

The World Wide Web (usually called the Web, or web) is a gigantic storehouse of information. The web is the most popular part of the internet, partly because it displays most information in a visually appealing format. Headlines, text, and pictures can be combined on a single webpage – much like a page in a magazine – along with sounds and animation. A website is a collection of interconnected webpages. The web contains millions of websites and billions of webpages. Surfing the web means exploring it. You can find information on the web about almost any topic imaginable. For example, you can read news stories and movie reviews, check airline schedules, see street maps, get the weather forecast for your city, or research a health condition. Most companies, government agencies, museums, and libraries have websites with information about their products, services, or collections. Reference sources, such as dictionaries and encyclopedias, are also widely available. The web is also a shopper’s delight. You can browse and purchase products –books, music, toys, clothing, electronics, and much more – at the websites of major retailers. You can also buy and sell used items through websites that use auction-style bidding.