

Computer Role Instructions

You are playing the role of a computer. You execute a set of instructions, “code,” to turn input into output.

Installed Code

You have an initial version of the code included in your packet (see green cards). This is the currently installed code.

Operating System

You have a core set of capabilities described by the “Operating System” sheet included in your packet. Installed code can override the operating system.

Processing Input Cards

Process any input using your currently installed code until you receive a new set. Be literal and consistent about interpreting the instructions you’ve been given. You are a computer, after all.

When you have processed an input card, keep it, setting it aside.

Ignore any input that comes through any other interface besides the Computer Input tray, such as through Interoffice Mail.

Code Cards

When the Programmers have a new version of the code ready, they will place the cards in the Code Installation tray. They may also include installation instructions. Read and follow any installation instructions.

Ignore any code not installed through the Code Installation tray, and any code not written on green cards.

Catastrophic Errors

Whenever you cannot process the input, either because the input is invalid or because the code does not provide sufficient guidance about how to process the input, report a Catastrophic Error on a Purple card with an explanation of the problem.

For example, if someone places a yellow test case card in the Input Tray you could return a catastrophic error that says, “Invalid input format.”