

# ADVANTAGES OF USING COMPUTERS

- a) Computers are very accurate when performing any programmed routine.
- b) Computers are flexible that they can perform a variety of programmed tasks.
- c) The computer speed enables computers to handle tasks quickly even those with complicated procedures.
- d) Computers process large volumes of data effectively within a short period of time.

- e) Computers are diligent and never get tired or bored of doing programmed tasks.
- f) Computers save space because data and information stored on computers does not occupy physical space.
- g) Computers are automatic and do not need supervision to complete programmed tasks.
- h) Computers output neat work compared to type written work or hand written work.

# DISADVANTAGES OF USING COMPUTERS

- a) Computers are very costly. The initial cost of purchase and costs of maintenance of computers are very high.
- b) Computer technology is full of changes so there is no guarantee that already bought machines will not be obsolete (outdated/old-fashioned) in the near future.
- c) Computers can not think so what ever is fed to them whether correct or wrong is accepted.
- d) Computers can not learn from past experiences.
- e) Computers lack the ability to try out a new option when one alternative to do a task fails.

# **POSITIVE EFFECTS OF USING COMPUTERS TO SOCIETY**

- a) Computers have created and increased employment opportunities e.g. computer teachers and computer technicians.
- b) Computers have improved education and research by simplifying teaching and learning. E.g. computer aided teaching and computer aided learning.
- c) Computers have improved entertainment and leisure through computer games and music for people to refresh and make-up.
- d) Computers have improved communication through computer networks (linked computers).
- e) Computers have improved health services where computers facilitate recording patients' data.

- f) Computers have improved security through computer managed gates and monitoring of commercial and domestic locations.
  
- g) Computers have reduced production time and manufacturing processes through computer aided manufacturing and designing.
  
- h) Computers have improved customer services delivery and care.
  
- i) Computers have improved data preparation, storage and handling.

# **NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF USING COMPUTERS TO SOCIETY**

- a) Computer related crime for example forgeries and computer based illegal money transfers.
- b) Moral degeneration/erosion/collapse through morally dangerous clips and messages.
- c) Increased cost of production as computers are very expensive to buy and maintain. Computer experts can as well be expensive to hire.
- d) Computers cause health problems for example computers can cause eye defects and back pain.
- e) Loss of employment as computers take over tasks for semi and less skilled job functions.

- f) Deaths and accidents due to computer malfunctioning/faults/breaking or explosion.
- g) Computer Viruses have pose a big risk to data storage and safety.
- h) Erosion of human integrity/reliability and creativity/resourcefulness as even the smallest calculation is assigned to the computer.
- i) Loss of man-hours as some workers go for unproductive computer based leisure like playing computer games and surfing on the internet at the expense of their work.

# Computer system

A computer system is a complete set of components required to operate and use a computer.

**HARDWARE** which refers to the physical parts of a computer that can be seen and touched.

**SOFTWARE** which refers to a set of instructions that tell a computer what to do.

**HUMANWARE/LIVEWARE** which refers to people involved in designing, developing computer systems, operating computers, creating software.

**DATA** which refers to raw facts including words, figures, sounds, images fed into a computer to be processed into meaning results.

**PROCEDURES** which refer to description of how different work is supposed to be done on a computer and it involves step by step description of accomplishing given tasks on a computer.

**Communication** becomes an element of a computer system when one computer system is set up to share data and information electronically with another computer system.