

Directions:

1. Follow all typing paper rules.
2. Font – Calibri size 12
3. 380 words are in the paper.

Your Name

Mr. Larson

6th Grade Computers

July 4, 1776

Computer History and Facts

In 1947, engineers found a moth in the Harvard Mark 1 computer. The computer was running a test of its **multiplier** and **adder** when the engineers noticed something was wrong. The moth was trapped, removed, and taped into the computer's logbook with the words: "First actual case of a bug being found."

History

In 1977, Ken Olson, the President of a large *computer company* said something that I bet he wishes he didn't. He said, "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home."

Pencils. The average pencil will draw a line 35 miles long and can write about **50,000** words. Each year about two billion pencils are used in the United States. Imagine how many we would use if we didn't have computers!

Mouse. The computer mouse was invented in 1963. It was about as large as two bars of soap sitting on top of one another. Even though it was invented in 1963, the first **mouse** you could buy for a home computer was sold in 1981.

Keyboards. The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet. Repairmen would type this sentence if they fixed a typewriter to make sure everything worked correctly.

Put this in your portfolio!

Laptop Computers

The first laptop computer was called the Osborne 1 and was first sold in 1981. It weighed over twenty three pounds and only had a *five inch* computer screen. It was almost as large as the entire computer you are working on right now. An average laptop today only weighs between four and seven pounds.

PDA. Today you can buy **really small** computers called Personal Digital Assistants. They can allow a person to check their e-mail, their calendar, listen to music and talk on the phone from one small computer.

Computers in the future may be unlike anything we are accustomed to using today. They may be like in Star Trek, where you simply *spoke to the computer* and it did everything you asked it to do. Until then, learning to type is still important!

Copmann, Dr. Parker R. and Shanaee Orton. Computers and our Future! Acequia: Lee Publishing and Printing. 2005. Pages 344-352.