

Your Name  
Mr. Larson  
Beginning Computers  
July 4, 1776

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The First Computers

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The first **computers** in the world were actually people. Their job was to work on *math problems* all day long using paper and pencils. They figured out how much interest people owed on loans from a bank, or, how to aim their **cannons** so they would hit the target.

The first person to invent a computer was **Charles Babbage**. He invented it in 1837. It wasn't the kind of computer we use today, instead, it was a machine that had gears in it and was **hand cranked**.

The next big invention in computer history was in 1946. The ENIAC was invented. It was larger than two *classrooms* in our school and it used vacuum tubes. A **vacuum tube** was kind of like a light bulb. It had 17,486 of them. In one second it could do 5,000 addition problems, 357 multiplication problems or 38 division problems.

Today computers use *transistors* which are like little tiny light switches. They are microscopic in size and there can be nearly a billion **transistors** in your CPU. They can do **billions** of math problems in a second! Computers have become so inexpensive that people can now have one or more in their home.

33. Gibbons, Dr. Ivy. Computer History. Heyburn: Dunder Mifflin, 2008. Pages 19-

**Reference Information: From a book with 1 author and page numbers.**

Type in the name of the person, the name of the book, the city it was published in, the name of the company that printed the book and the date it

**Directions:**

1. Circle **bold** and *italic* words
2. Do your "Every Day" steps.
3. Do your "New Assignment Steps."
  - o Font is Tahoma 12 today.
4. Save your work often.
5. Print and proofread carefully and then turn in your paper.
6. 222 words are in this paper.

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