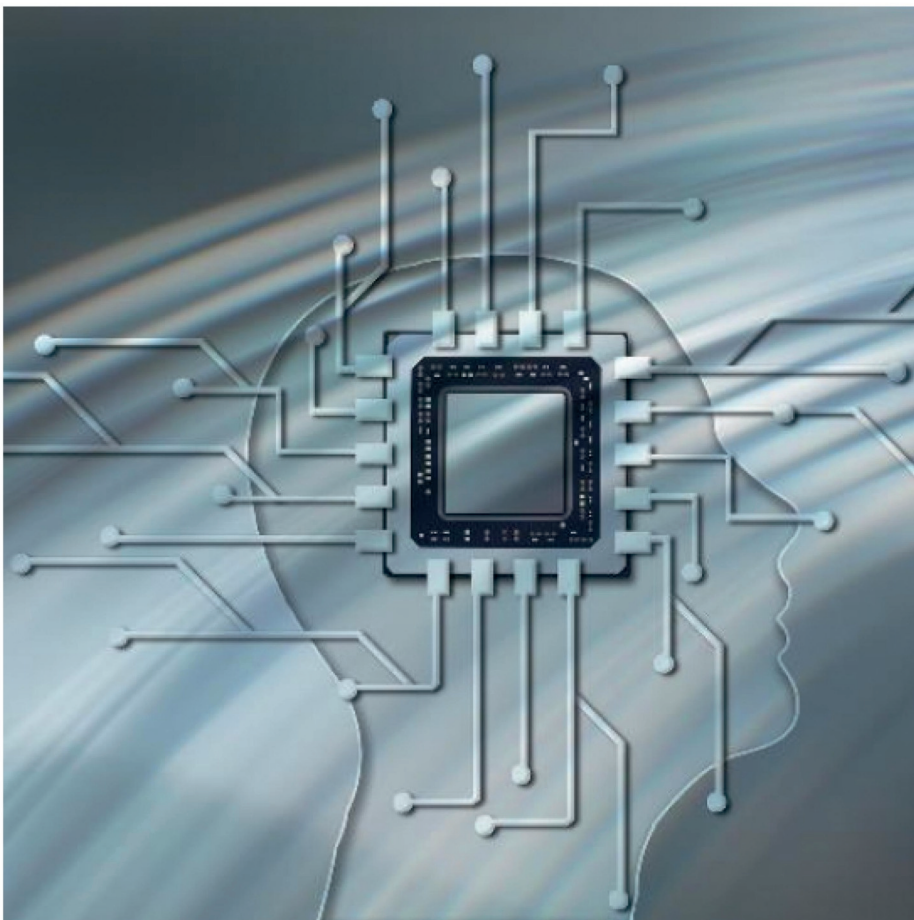




A computer is like a human brain.

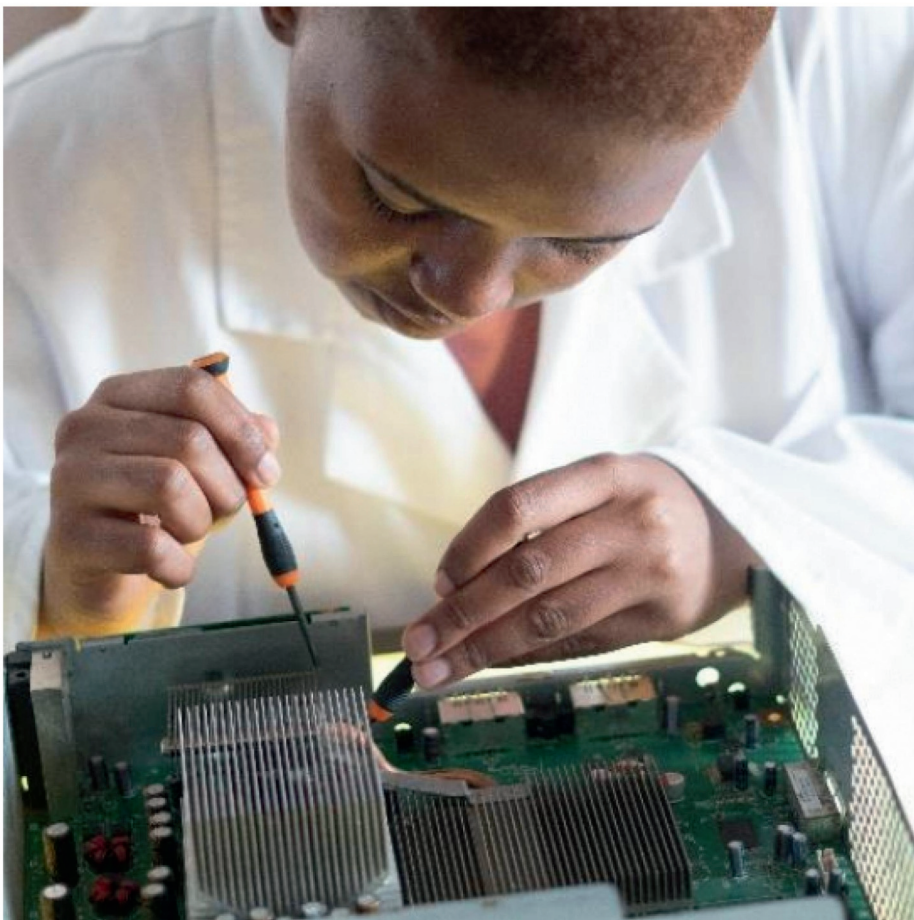
It takes in information, and it works with information.

It keeps information, and it gives back information.



When a computer works with information, we say it processes information.

When a computer keeps information, we say it stores information in its memory.



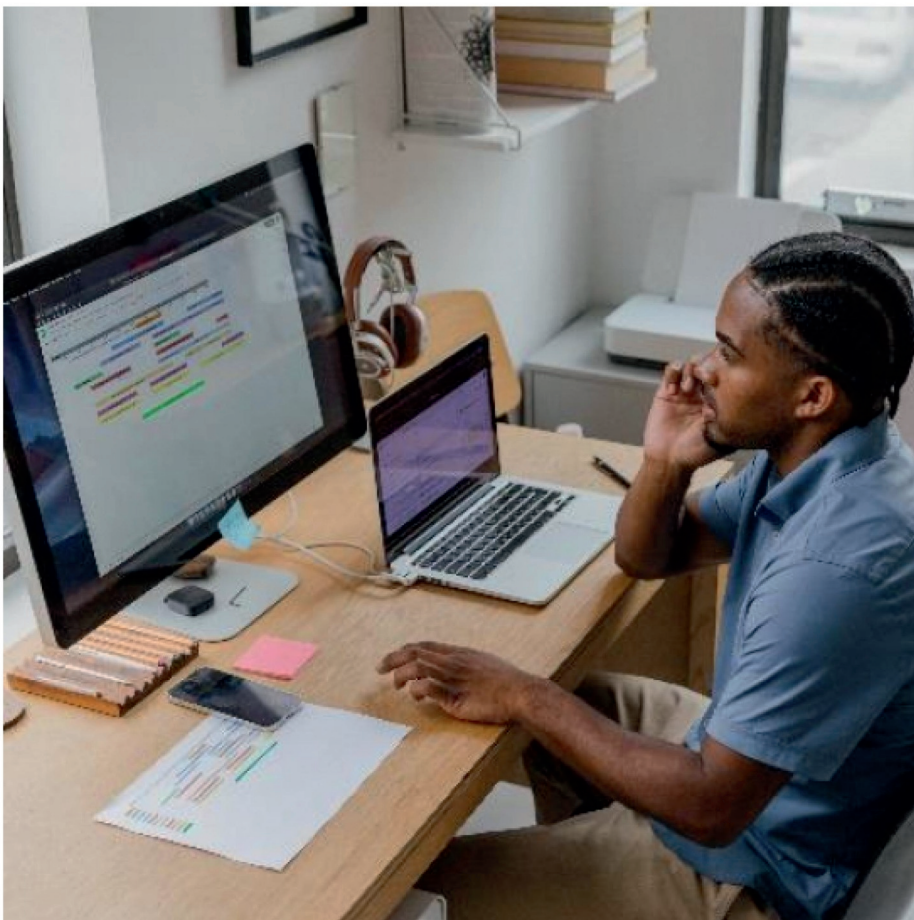
Even when you switch off a computer, its hard drive stores information in its memory.

A hard drive is usually found inside a computer.



A flash drive or flash stick stores information in the same way as a hard drive.

A flash stick plugs into a computer.



We use software programs to work with information.

Software programs process and store information on a computer.

There are different programs for different tasks.

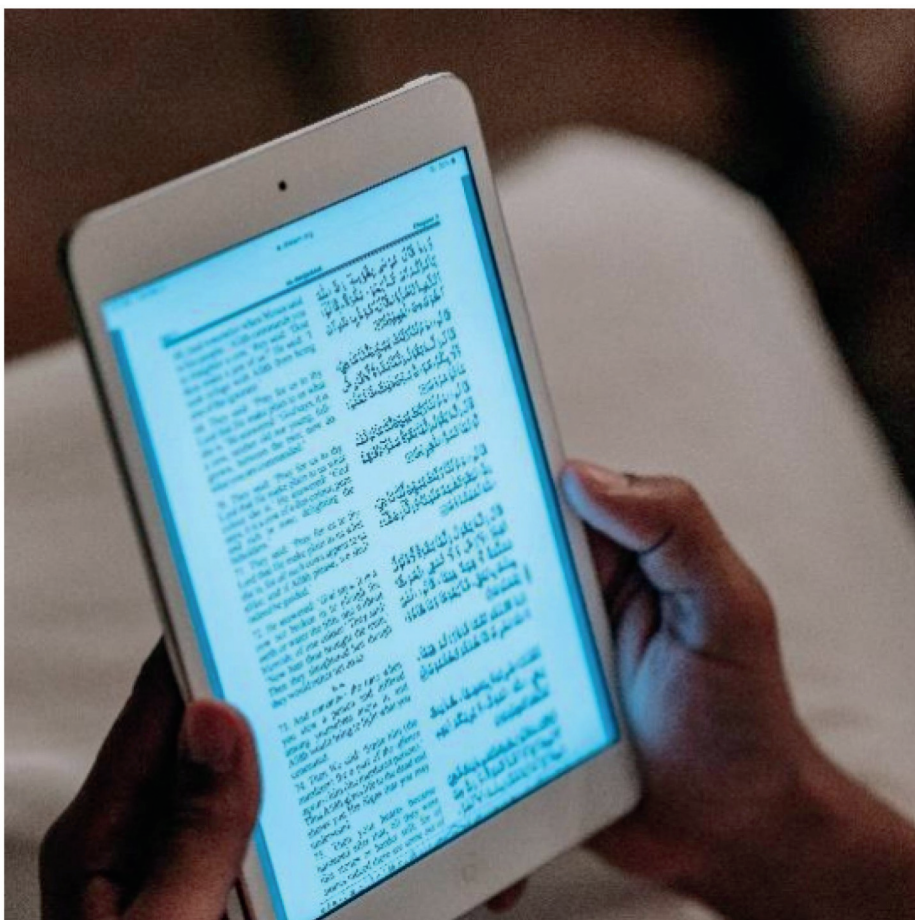


The applications on a smartphone are also software.

The short name for application is 'app'.

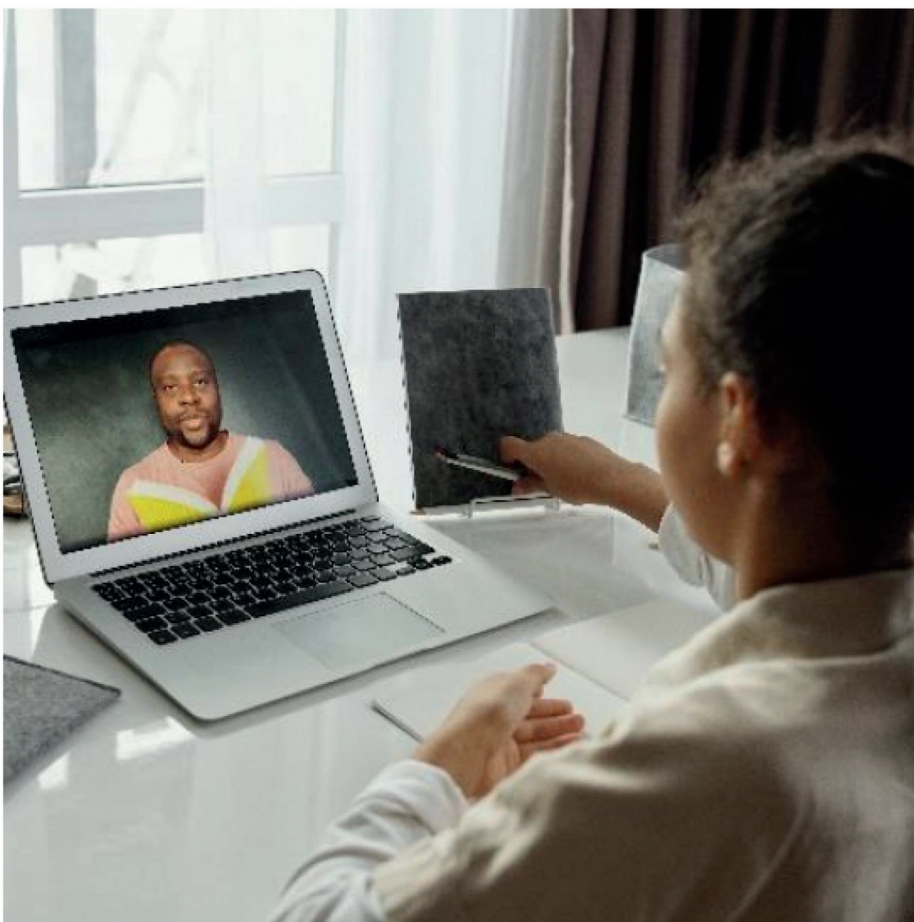


There are apps for playing games and other fun activities.



You can store many books on a computer.

You turn the pages of a book by pressing a button or swiping the screen.



A computer and an internet connection are very useful for studying.

You can use the internet to go online and watch teachers teaching lessons.



The internet can also be a dangerous place.

Ask someone you trust to help you with using the internet and visiting new websites.



—Questions

1. What is processing?
2. Where does a computer store information?
3. Give an example of a storage device.
4. How do software programmes help us?
5. Why do we need the internet when working on a computer?
6. Explain why a computer is like a brain.
7. Find out about two apps that you can use to improve in your studies.
8. What is a website made up of?



This is book one in a series of four books
introducing topics in computer technology.

The storybook was created for the Zenex Ulwazi
Lwethu reading materials project in 2021.