# Software and comparison between types of computer

- Input units
- Output units
- Storage units
- Central processing unit (CPU)
- Types of computer

- **\*** Computer components
- Computer components are classified into two types:
  - 1. Hardware
  - 2. Software

#### 1. Hardware

- ✓ It consists of every mechanical and electrical component.
- ✓ It is any visible and directly attached component of the computer, and can be divided into four main parts:
  - A. Input units
  - B. Output units
  - C. Storage units
  - D. Central processing unit (CPU)

## A. Input units

These devices are used to enter information from the user to the central processing unit (CPU) and include:

- i. Mouse
- ii. Keyboard
- iii. Scanner
- iv. Microphone
- v. Light pen

#### i. The Mouse

- It is a pointing device that controls the location of the pointer (arrow or cursor) on the screen.
- When the user presses on the one of buttons, the pointer (mouse) either marks a place on the screen or marks selection from data on the screen.

## ii. Keyboard

Is used to enter text information into the computer.

#### iii. Scanner

It is a device used to enter images, drawings and texts and can be changed, saved them into a computer file, or printed

## iv. Microphone

It is used to insert sounds and music.

## v . Light pen

It is used to enter signature, handwriting, and drawing maps.

#### **B.** Output units

These are the devices used for displaying and transmitting information from the central processing unit to the user, and include:

- i. Monitor or Screen
- ii. Speakers
- iii. Printer
- iv. Data show

#### i. Monitor or Screen

It is the main output device of a computer. It is used to display data in the form of a visual image.

## ii. Speakers

It is used to output audio data in audible form.

#### iii. Printer

It is used to output data onto paper, where the researches, books, cards, and many types of paper can be printed

#### iv. Data show

- ✓ Is a display device that project a computer created image.
- ✓ It is typically used for presentations or for viewing videos.

## C. Storage units

These units are mainly responsible for keeping the files and data of the user permanently, consist of:

- i. Hard Disk
- ii. CD
- iii. DVD
- iv. Memory card

### **D.** Central processing unit (CPU)

It is responsible for interpreting information, performing logical calculations, controlling all commands and instructions, and communicating them between parts of the computer. It is also known as a processor or microprocessor. include:

- i. Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)
- ii. Control unit
- iii. Memory unit

## **Types of computer**

Depending upon their speed and memory size, computers are classified into following:

- 1. Mainframes: are an expensive and is a very powerful large general purpose computers. Large organizations use mainframes computer.
- 2. Mini computers: are a midsize multi-processing system capable of supporting up to 250 users simultaneously. 11

- 3. Super computers: are very expensive and are employed for specialized applications that require immense amount of mathematical calculations. For example, weather forecasting, scientific simulations.
- **4. Personal Computer (PC):** Is can be defined as a small, relatively inexpensive computer designed for an individual user.
- 5. Laptop: is small size and operated on a special battery.