Computers are so named, because they were first designed to deal with numbers – that is to compute. But modern computers are also process words, draw, reproduce sound and perform many other functions.

The early history of the computer can be traced to Charles Babbage, an English inventor who designed and “analytical machine”. Had it been, it would have covered an area equal to football field and required the power of five steam engines.

A more practical plan came from the American inventor Herman Hollerith, who patented a calculating machine in 1889. In 1924 Hollerith’s Tabulating Machine Company adopted the name International Business Machines Corporation (IBM).

In 1947 was invented at Bell Laboratories in the USA of a transistor, which was much faster, smaller and cheaper than the vacuum tube. The microchip was invented a few years later along with the microprocessor, allowing information to be stored and manipulated in a small area.

During 1980’s, computers became progressively smaller, better and cheaper. As the hardware became more powerful, software became more sophisticated.

In 1992 the computer industry was the fastest growing industry in the world

Computers guide airplanes, control traffic, process words, and numbers and keep track of appointments. Computers became the heart of modern business, science, medical research, industry and agriculture.