How it Works: The Microcomputer

6

This discussion refers to a hypothetical microcomputer.

1. The main information link in a microcomputer is the central processing unit bus (CPU BUS). This set of wires carries two types of control address lines anywhere data is going: data lines transport the data.

2. When the computer is turned on the Boot ROM (read only memory) sends a simple program which will tell the CPU what to do. The Boot program tells the CPU to turn on the disk drive if that part of the system is used.

3. The OS is a program that manages the computer and its peripheral devices like a traffic cop regulates the flow of vehicles. Some microcomputers place the OS in the System ROM. An OS may also include utility programs for copying or erasing files.

4. Application programs (e.g., word processing, accounting, recordkeeping) run on a disk drive pass into RAM (random access memory) via the microprocessor

5. The CPU processes data in units called "words". The first microcomputers used 8-bit microprocessors. A new 16-bit version hit the market in December 1983, which processes data in units of 2 to 6 bits. A 32-bit microprocessor is also now in use.

6. When a key is pressed on the keyboard a processor in the keyboard interface determines the position and the code for the key stored in the keyboard ROM. The code is placed on the data lines and is passed by the CPU to the display memory.

7. But in the display memory are turned on or off to correspond with positions on the CRT display screen. The display completes this display screen, translates these into an on/off electronic impulse and sends them to the electron gun at the back of the display screen.

The satellites could have important applications for education as a tool for educational television programs, or telesoftware which could be relayed in off-peak time for storage in local terminals. Some of the constraints in utilising satellites are the high costs of production and launch which are decreasing with miniaturisation and the space shuttle, as well as crowding of the new technology broadcasting bands. A social constraint is the problem of broadcasting to areas where local individuals and/or equipment are not available. A demand for microcomputer to be developed for standards and regulations.

Application to Health Education

As Butler [1981] points out, however, there are at present a number of limitations to the use of microcomputers. The cost of producing a master copy is very high, and as an agency must be sure of high distribution volume to offset high implementation costs. The fixed video disc is not well suited for trial and error implementation. Any design or production cannot be transferred to the microcomputer without the initial mastering investment into a total loss. Developing effective interactive video software will require extensive work, the means to support medical information, and people who can design these materials are scarce. Interdisciplinary expertise in the development of new technologies is also required. In order to take advantage of these materials, there are several regulations, or telesoftware which could be relayed in off-peak time for storage in local terminals. Some of the constraints in utilising satellites are the high costs of production and launch which are decreasing with miniaturisation and the space shuttle, as well as crowding of the new technology broadcasting bands. A social constraint is the problem of broadcasting to areas where local individuals and/or equipment are not available. A demand for microcomputer to be developed for standards and regulations.

First, health education must be increased in order to educate health educators. What kind of program would have an impact on an individual's health? How are new instructional tasks, and several factors must be taken into consideration. First, health education must be increased in order to educate health educators. What kind of program would have an impact on an individual's health? How are new instructional tasks, and several factors must be taken into consideration.