

Year 8 summer 2 Computing: Representations



A) Key knowledge		B) Key knowledge		C) Key knowledge		D) Literacy
Computers need:	To store, process, and communicate information	Bit	A binary digit, representing 0 or 1	Decimal	Its multipliers are powers of 10; it uses 10 digits; known as base ten; each multiplier is ten times as big as the one before it	<p>'Explain why computers use binary' [3]</p> <p>'Explain why 3 MB is approximately 3 million bytes' [3]</p>
Computers use:	Sequences of symbols to represent information	ASCII #2	ASCII uses 7 bits to represent characters – this is sufficient to encode all keyboard letters, symbols and numbers	Binary	Its multipliers are powers of 2; uses 2 digits; known as base two; each multiplier is twice as big as the one before it	
Information in computers	Must be represented in a form convenient for processing	Electronic devices	Are built using circuits of interconnected switches that control the flow of electricity	Binary digits act like switches:	Flip one to on , and the corresponding multiplier is included in the sum	
Coding scheme	Associates each letter with a sequence of symbols	Keyboard characters	All keyboard characters are represented using sequences of bits	Byte	8 binary digits	
ASCII #1	A coding scheme used to represent text as sequences of 1s and 0s	Why binary?	Computers use two symbols because they are built out of switches	To convert bits to bytes:	Divide the number of bits by 8	
Homework: Look/cover/write and self-mark the information from Section A		Homework: Look/cover/write and self-mark the information from Section B		Homework: Look/cover/write and self-mark the information from Section C		