

# Lights, Camera, Media Literacy!

## *The Creation of the Computer*

(from The History Channel's Modern Marvels Series)

When you hear the phrase or statement, place a checkmark next to it.

- \_\_\_1) "...their most basic components consist of simple devices that can be switched to either one of two states: on or off."
- \_\_\_2) "...a computer takes information, processes it, and then outputs the result."
- \_\_\_3) "Hardware comes in boxes. They're the physical components."
- \_\_\_4) "Software comes on disks." *(Note: Software can also be downloaded.)*
- \_\_\_5) "The input is picked up by the Central Processing Unit (CPU), the computer's *brain*."
- \_\_\_6) "MIPS...Millions of Instructions Per Second."
- \_\_\_7) "...the CPU may retrieve data stored in Random Access Memory (RAM)."
- \_\_\_8) "Babbage was a hundred years ahead of his time."
- \_\_\_9) "Why not build a machine that could solve any mathematical problem?"
- \_\_\_10) "...Babbage's overall design for the analytical engine had many components analogous to those in a modern computer."
- \_\_\_11) "...nearly 100 years before a programmable computation device would again be conceived."
- \_\_\_12) "America's exploding population began to endanger one of its great institutions...the American census."
- \_\_\_13) "Punch cards would one day become the standard method of feeding high volumes of data into computers."
- \_\_\_14) "Census Bureau clerks used Hollerith's machines to punch the cards and then tabulate the results."
- \_\_\_15) "The tabulating was done with electricity."

- \_\_\_16) "The results of the 1890 census count were a triumph for Hollerith. In just six weeks, the population count of 62,622,250 was tallied."
- \_\_\_17) "Hollerith's former company was merged with three others and led by... Thomas Watson, grew into a major supplier of business equipment. In 1924 Watson renamed the enterprise International Business Machines (IBM)."
- \_\_\_18) "While Colossus was breaking German codes ...another computational device was under construction... in Philadelphia."
- \_\_\_19) "...ENIAC...the Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer."
- \_\_\_20) "Nearly 100 feet long and weighing 30 tons, it contained almost 70,000 resistors, 10,000 capacitors, 6,000 switches, & 18,000 delicate vacuum tubes."
- \_\_\_21) "Eckert & Mauchly... a company that would build a business computer... UNIVAC."
- \_\_\_22) "...UNIVAC on election night to predict the outcome of the presidential race between Dwight Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson."
- \_\_\_23) "IBM saw the future and it was computers."
- \_\_\_24) "The transistor could replace large vacuum tubes in computers... transistors were tiny, required little power, and used little heat."
- \_\_\_25) "...entire network of electronic components - transistors, diodes, capacitors, & resistors - ...incorporated onto a single chip of silicone.... the integrated circuit."
- \_\_\_26) "...put an entire computer on a chip of silicone...the microprocessor....beginning the computer revolution and changing the world forever."
- \_\_\_27) "In the mid-1970's, two friends Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs, were manufacturing a small computer in a Palo Alto garage...the Apple."
- \_\_\_28) "Steve Jobs visited Xerox Park and saw the Alto. He returned to Apple and immediately set to work on what would become the Macintosh computer...the first popular personal computer similar to those used today."
- \_\_\_29) "Bill Gates, the young president of computing software company MicroSoft, understood the importance of software to the future of computers..."
- \_\_\_30) "Computers will continue to become more interconnected."