Programming languages

1) Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

1. How does computer programming affect business?

2. Why is computer programming becoming more important?

2 Read the letter from the head of a computer programming department to her boss. Then, choose the correct answers.

1 What is the letter mainly about?

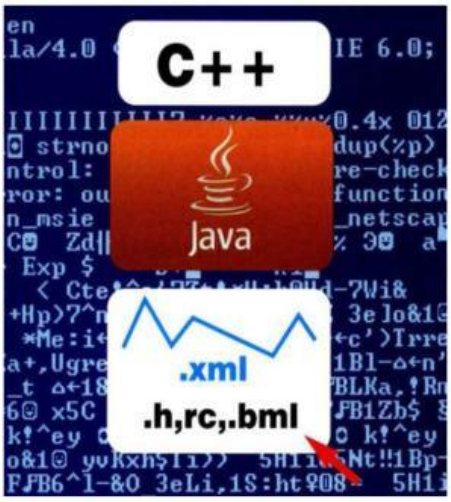
- **A** purchasing more CPUs
- **B** writing better computer programs
- **C** learning new computer languages
- **D** requesting updated resources

2 Which of these programming languages do the programmers NOT know?

- **A** C#
- **B** Assembler
- **C** BASIC
- **D** C++

3 What can be inferred about BASIC?

- **A** It is used in Assembler.
- **B** It is used less frequently than C++.
- **C** It cannot be used by compilers.
- **D** It is the most difficult to learn.



Mr. Daniels,

As the head of the computer programming department, I feel that we need to update the department's resources. This includes our programmers. Most of our programmers are comfortable with the C, C++, and Java computer languages. We even have one programmer who can use C#. But we don't have anyone proficient in Assembler. I think we need some programmers who are familiar with it. That way, we can translate between programs more easily.

In addition, we have two programmers who specialize in BASIC. This language is in decline and will probably be phased out soon.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Some of our machines are getting older, too. A few computers need their compilers and linkers updated. Otherwise, they'll never be able to convert to machine code efficiently. One of our older CPUs cannot multi-thread very well. As you know, the programming department is very important to this company's future. Please help us stay updated.

Thanks,

Sarah Jennings

Vocabulary

3 Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1 He's writing a new language that computers can process.
c _ _ _ _ _ _ r _ _ _ _ u _ _ _

2 An object-oriented programming language is used often.
_ _ v _

3 I'd use a programming language that translates between programs. _ s s _ _ _ _ _ _

4 Many of the first PCs used an early programming language that is not widely used anymore.
_ _ S _ C

5 Harold often used a competitor to Java instead of Java. _ _

6 Do you know a programming language that adds capabilities to C? _ _ +

7 Linux® is created with a programming language that programs operating systems. _

8 The central processing unit is a computer's most important part. _ P _

9 A computer part that changes source code into machine code is essential to programming. _ _ _ _ _ _ e r

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 Check (✓) the sentence that uses the underlined parts correctly.

1 ___ **A** Linkers allow programmers to control computers.

___ **B** CPU was the first programming language.

2 ___ **A** A new Java can make your computer run faster.

___ **B** Machine code makes programming possible.

3 ___ **A** Added memory allows computers to multi-thread.

___ **B** I'm learning compiler, a new programming language.

5 Listen and read the letter from the head of a computer programming department to her boss. Why will a few of the old computers need their linkers and compilers updated?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between a programmer and her manager. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

1 ___ The manager intends to hire more programmers.

2 ___ The woman is going to learn Assembler.

3 ___ The manager denied the request to upgrade the CPUs.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 **Listen again and complete the conversation.**

Programmer: Well, without someone who knows Assembler we can't efficiently **1** _____ _____ _____ .

Manager: I know, but I think the best way to address that problem is to have you trained in it.

Programmer: I'm up for that. But I'm worried that I'll get behind on the **2** _____ programs I'm writing.

Manager: We can shift some of your workload to other **3** _____, then.

Programmer: Okay. What do you think about our **4** _____ _____?

Manager: How pressing would you say those needs are?

Programmer: If we had some updated CPUs, we could finish our projects in a **5** _____ _____ _____ _____ .

Manager: All right. Let me **6** _____ _____ _____ at the budget and see what I can do.

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USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

I don't think we can afford more programmers.

What do you think about our CPU needs?

How pressing would you say those needs are?

Student A: You are talking to a programmer.
Ask Student B about:

- department's needs
- importance of needs
- possible solutions

Student B: You are a programming employee.
Answer Student A's questions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS