

Read and determine which text answers the question. Write down the letters of paragraphs in the spaces of questions. **THERE IS ONE EXTRA TEXT:**

Which computers

- 1) are the smallest?
- 2) are widespread models?
- 3) can fulfil several tasks simultaneously?
- 4) are the most expensive?
- 5) may be used separately or joined to a network?
- 6) were called at first microcomputers?

A. A supercomputer is extremely powerful. It can be used for very complex tasks, such as computer modelling of weather systems. These computers are extremely expensive, and are generally used by educational or scientific institutions, rather than individual ones.

B. A mainframe is a powerful computer which is capable of processing large amounts of data, often enabling many people to use it, and to carry out many tasks, at the same time. A network of smaller computers or terminals is used to access the files and programs on the mainframe. Mainframes are therefore described as multi-user, multitasking machines.

C. A smaller computer in a network connected to a mainframe, or other more powerful computer, is often called a workstation. A workstation may, however, also be a relatively powerful computer, usually with good graphic capabilities, that may be either attached to a network or used as a standalone machine.

D. A small computer designed to be used to by an individual, for example at home or in an office, is sometimes called a PC, or personal computer. This kind of machine used to be called a microcomputer.

E. Another type of personal computer is a desktop or desktop computer. This is a very common model, which as the name suggests fits on a desk. Many users have desktop computers either at home, at work or in educational institutions. A desktop is not designed to be portable, which means it does not have an independent power supply, and is too big and heavy to be carried easily.

F. A laptop is smaller than a desktop. Laptops are portable and can use batteries. As the name suggests, a laptop is small and light enough to fit on the user's lap. A notebook is like a laptop, but is smaller, and a subnotebook is even smaller.

G. A handheld computer, sometimes called a palmtop, a PDA (personal digital assistant), or a pocket computer, is small enough to be held in the user's hand.