

The process of input, processing, output and storage is called the information processing cycle. These days most computers are linked to other computers in some way so that they can communicate with one another. Communication has therefore become a very important element in this cycle.

## Activity 1

The process of input, processing, output and storage also occurs in other electronic devices. Decide in each of the following cases whether the phrase or definition refers to input, processing, output or storage.

1. Typing an SMS message into your cellphone.
2. The letters that appear on the screen of your cellphone while you are typing a SMS message.
3. Your contacts (names and phone numbers) on your cellphone.
4. Pressing the channel chosen button on the television control.
5. The songs on your MP3 player.
6. The sound of your heats alarm going off.
7. The music that plays on the screen from your DVD player.
8. The 'Error' or 'Beep' sound that your computer makes when you make a mistake.
9. Moving the computer's joystick when playing a computer game.
10. The music on a DVD.

## The 'mighty mouse'

The mouse is used a lot to interact with programs on your computer. We move the mouse cursor on the screen by moving the mouse around.



The following table shows the basic mouse actions:

Mouse action	Description
Clicking	Resting the cursor on an object and then selecting the object by clicking the left button once.
Double-clicking	Quickly clicking the left button twice.
Right-clicking	Pressing the right mouse button instead of the left mouse button.
Dragging	Holding down a mouse button and moving the mouse.
Scrolling	Most mice have a wheel between the two buttons that is used to scroll up and down in a document on the screen.