

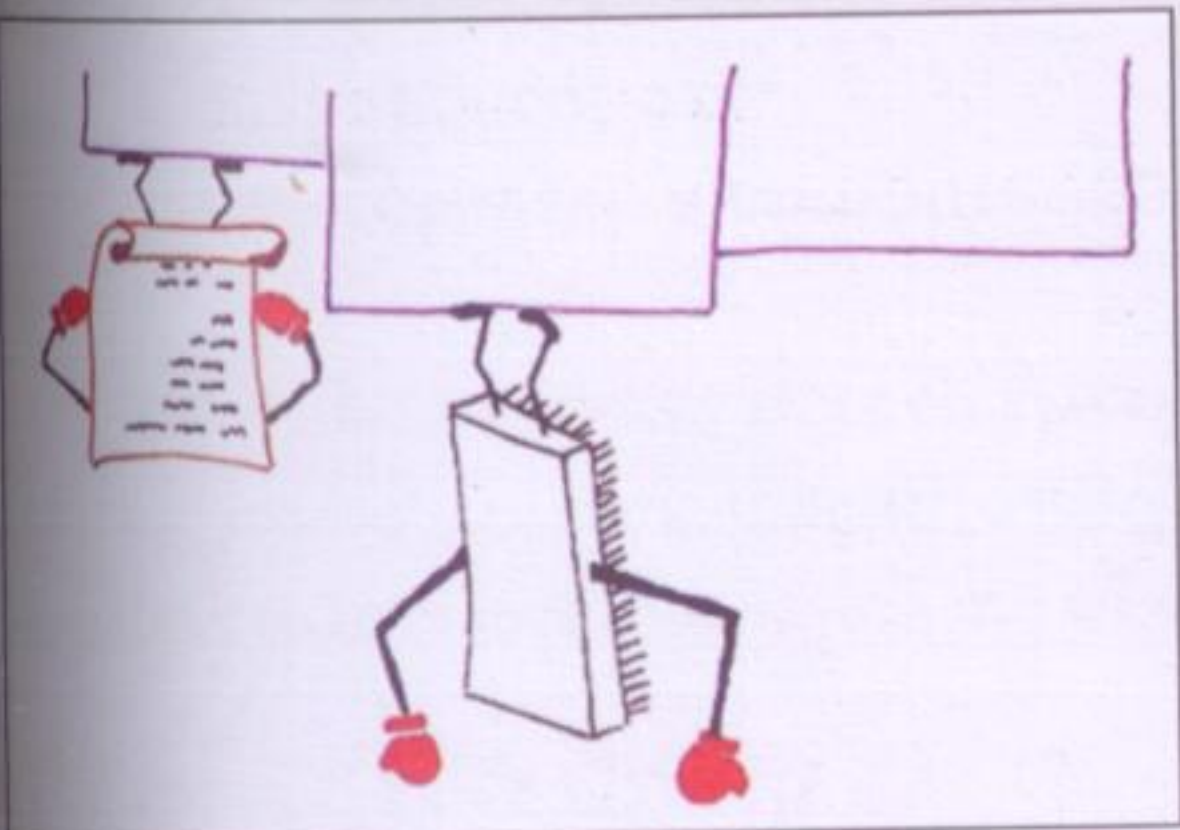
Types of Software

The different types of software can be put into categories based on common function, type, or field of use. There are three broad classifications:

1. Application software are the computer programs for performing user tasks such as word processing and web browsers.

2. System software is used to start and run computer systems and networks. This includes operating systems.
3. Computer programming tools (also known as development and system software. This is done by translating and compiling and libraries into executable RAMs. These include compilers

and libraries into executable RAMs. These include compiler and linker.



Hardware versus Software

► **Activity 1:** Does the classification of software in Activity 2 in the Lead-in section agree with the one provided in the text?

the one provided in the text?

► **Activity 2:** Match the words on the left with their definitions on the right:

1. documentation	a) putting (e.g., a system) into operation; execution
2. firmware	b) a device or program that connects two items of hardware or software so that they can be operated jointly or communicate with each other
3. implementation	c) written specifications and instructions that accompany a computer program or a piece of hardware
4. interface	d) similarity in form or type; agreement (e.g., of a specific process model) with what is accepted or required (e.g., a generic or standard process model)
5. conformity	e) software installed on a small memory chip on a hardware device

► **Activity 3:** Use one of the words (1-5) listed in the table above to fill in the gaps in the passage:

_____ , sometimes called *embedded software*, is a software program embedded in a hardware

_____ is typically stored in the flash ROM of the

device, which can be erased and rewritten, unlike ROM, which is read-only memory.

Typical examples of devices containing _____ include computers, computer pe-

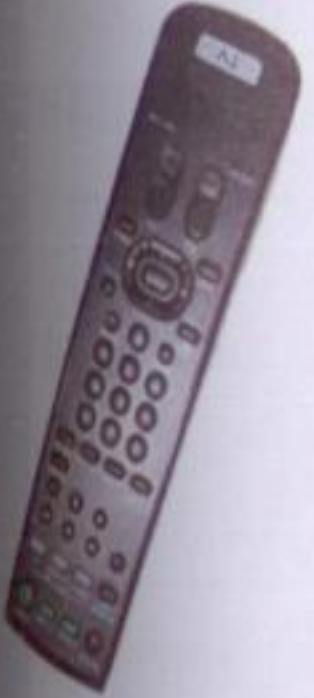
appliances, digital watches, etc.

_____ is usually thought of as permanent or semi-permanent, as it remains the same unless it is updated. Keeping your _____ up-to-date is most of the times not

of certain devices, such as hard drives and

video cards, may need to be updated in order for them to work with a new operating system. Manufacturers often release _____ updates to make their

"Support" or "Downloads" area of a manufacturer's website.



A television remote control is an example of a product that contains