

<b>Question</b>	<b>First Era</b>	<b>Second Era</b>	<b>Third Era</b>	<b>Fourth Era</b>
When?	1965-1985	1980-2000	1995-2015	2005-2025
What is the hardware?	mainframes	servers & PCs	personal computers	devices
What is the software?	back office applications, such as payroll	PC applications, such as word processors and spreadsheets	web applications, such as Amazon and Facebook	services on devices, such as listening to music or taking pictures with cell phones
What is the network?	terminals on serial lines	local area networks	wide area networks	wireless networks
What is the user interface?	terminals	PCs with windows, menus & mice	clicking buttons on browsers	pushing buttons on devices; voice
Where is the data?	in the mainframes	on servers	on desktops	in your pocket

Table 1.2: The first four eras of computing.