

Grade 5

FathomKey

AI Series

Future -
Ready kids

AI for YOUNG MINDS



Discover, Learn and Build with AI

NEP 2020 • NCF-SE 2023 • CT & AI Competency Aligned



Young
Problem Solver

I solve problems
step by step.



Technology
Explorer

I explore technology
and use it wisely



Responsible Digital
Citizen

I use technology
safely and kindly

Authored by alumni of IIM Bangalore and University of Texas

FathomKey

AI for Young Mind – Grade 5

First Edition: 2026

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Curriculum Alignment

This book is part of a grade-wise AI learning programme developed for Indian schools. Its content is informed by the principles of **NEP 2020**, **NCF** and relevant **CTAI** guidance. It supports the development of computational thinking, problem-solving, digital literacy, creativity and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence across school curricula.

LMS Support

This book is supported by the FATHOMKEY Learning Management System (LMS), which provides digital learning resources, interactive activities, assessments and additional support for students and teachers. LMS access is available through registered schools. For access and assistance, visit <https://lms.fathomkey.in> or contact info@fathomkey.in.

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AI for everyone.

AI for YOUNG MINDS

Grade 5

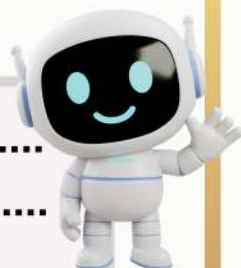
Discover, Learn and Build with AI

Name:

Class: Sec:

Subject: Roll No:

School:



CTAI STUDENT BOOK

FfathomKey

Authored by alumni of IIM Bangalore and University of Texas

PREFACE

Artificial Intelligence is becoming an important part of the world around us. From recognising patterns and predicting outcomes to helping people organise information and solve problems, AI is changing how we learn, work and communicate. Understanding how it works—and how to use it responsibly—is an essential skill for young learners.

AI for Young Minds – Grade 5 introduces students to computational thinking, algorithms, flowcharts, patterns, data and artificial intelligence through age-appropriate explanations, relatable examples and engaging activities. Learners explore how AI systems are trained using data, how smart systems recognise patterns and make predictions, and how people work together with AI to complete different tasks.

The book also helps students understand an important distinction: not every digital device or automated system uses AI. Through classroom situations, case studies, thinking questions and practical activities, learners are encouraged to examine how technology works instead of simply accepting its results.

Responsible use of AI is an important part of this learning journey. Students learn to protect personal information, verify AI-generated answers, recognise that AI can make mistakes, consider fairness and understand that important decisions must remain with people. They are encouraged to use AI as a learning support—not as a replacement for their own thinking, creativity or judgement.

The final project gives learners an opportunity to identify a simple problem, decide whether AI is genuinely needed and design a safe and useful solution. In doing so, students apply their knowledge while developing logical thinking, creativity, communication and collaboration skills.

We hope this book inspires every learner to remain curious, ask thoughtful questions and become a confident, careful and responsible user of artificial intelligence.

— Team Fathomkey

Inside the Series

What You Will Learn

The section tells you what you will learn in the chapter and the skills you will develop.

Activity Corner

Enjoy hands-on activities, drawing, puzzles, and mini projects to reinforce your learning.

Byte's Smart Tip

Byte shares smart tips to help you to solve problems using Computational Thinking.

Real-Life Connection

Discover how Computational Thinking helps us to solve problems in our daily lives.

Let's Begin with Introduction

Every chapter begins with an interesting introduction that connects the lesson to everyday life.

Learn important words and their meanings in simple and easy language.

Definition

Did You Know?

Read amazing facts that make learning more interesting and fun.

AI Connection

Explore how Artificial Intelligence and smart machines use instructions to complete tasks.

Think About It

Answer thought-provoking questions that encourage observation, reasoning, and discussion.

Exercise Time

Practice what you have learned through fun and engaging questions.

Challenge Yourself

Apply your learning through HOTS, analytical thinking, and real-life problem-solving activities.

Let's Revise

Quickly revise the chapter using a summary, glossary, and a simple mind map.

CONTENTS

Unit 1 - Thinking Like a Computer	Page No
Chapter 1 - The Power of Computational Thinking	7
Unit 2 - Discovering Patterns	
Chapter 2 - Algorithms, Flowcharts and Logical Thinking	20
Chapter 3 - Finding Patterns and Making Predictions	34
Unit 3 - Data Makes AI Smart	
Chapter 4 - Understanding Data	49
Chapter 5 - How AI Learns?	65
Unit 4 - Artificial Intelligence Around Us	
Chapter 6 - Smart AI Systems Around Us	80
Chapter 7 - Working Together with AI	97
Unit 5 - Responsible AI Citizen	
Chapter 8 - Safe, Fair and Responsible AI	112
Unit 6 - Create with AI	
Chapter 9 - My AI Innovation Project	127

The Power of Computational Thinking

"Every difficult problem becomes easier when we solve it one small step at a time."

Learning Outcome

After completing this chapter, you will be able to:

- ✓ Understand what Computational Thinking means.
- ✓ Explain why humans and computers solve problems differently.
- ✓ Identify the four key of Computational Thinking skills.
- ✓ Apply Computational Thinking to solve everyday problems.
- ✓ Recognise how Computational Thinking helps Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems work.
- ✓ Develop logical and organised problem-solving habits.

Chapter Introduction

Imagine you are planning a class picnic. You need to decide where to go, arrange transportation, prepare a list of students, organise food, check the weather, and make sure everyone stays safe. If you try to do everything at once, the task may seem confusing. However, if you divide it into smaller steps, each task becomes much

easier to manage. Now imagine teaching a computer to organise the same picnic. The computer cannot guess what to do or understand incomplete instructions. It needs every task to be explained clearly, in the correct order, and with enough detail. This organised way of solving problems is called **Computational Thinking**.

Computational Thinking is not about writing computer programs. It is a way of thinking logically and solving problems step by step. It helps people to organise information, recognise patterns, focus on important details, and design solutions that work efficiently.

Today, **Computational Thinking** is used by scientists, engineers, doctors, teachers, architects, business leaders, and many other professionals. It also forms the foundation of Artificial Intelligence. Every AI system—from a language translator to a weather prediction model—uses Computational Thinking to process information and make decisions.

As you explore this chapter, you will discover that Computational Thinking is not only useful for computers. It is a valuable life skill that can help you to solve everyday problems more effectively.



What Does It Mean to Think Like a Computer ?

A computer works to complete tasks one step at a time instead of trying to do everything at once. However, it cannot use people's experience, common sense, and imagination to fill in missing details. A computer follows only the instructions it is given. If the instructions are incomplete, unclear, or in the wrong order, the computer may produce incorrect results.

Thinking like a computer does not mean becoming a machine. It means learning to solve problems in a clear, logical, and organised manner. This way of thinking is called Computational Thinking, and it is one of the most important skills used in Artificial Intelligence (AI), computer science, engineering, mathematics, and many everyday situations. When people use Computational Thinking, they learn to break a large problem into smaller parts, identify useful patterns, ignore unnecessary details, and create a sequence of steps to reach a solution. These skills help us to solve problems more efficiently, whether we are using a computer or not.

Computational Thinking is a systematic way of solving problems by breaking them into smaller parts, identifying patterns, focusing on important information, and creating step-by-step solutions.

Human Thinking vs Computer Thinking

Although humans & computers work together, they solve problems in different ways.

Human Thinking	Computer Thinking
Uses experience and common sense.	Relies completely on instructions and data.
Can understand incomplete information.	Needs clear and complete instructions.
Learns from observation, emotions, and experience.	Learns from data and programmed methods.
Can be creative and flexible.	Follows logical processes consistently.
May make different decisions in the same situation.	Produces the same result when given the same instructions and data.

Example – Planning a School Picnic

Many students might simply say: "Let's organise a picnic." However, this is not enough information for a computer. **A computer would divide the task into smaller parts :-**

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Choose a destination. | 4. Arrange transport. | 6. Check the weather forecast |
| 2. Decide the date. | 5. Prepare a food list. | 7. Pack necessary materials. |
| 3. Count the number of students. | | 8. Confirm safety arrangements. |

Breaking a large task into smaller, manageable tasks makes planning easier and reduces the chance of forgetting something important. This is an example of **Computational Thinking** in everyday life.

The Four Powerful Skills of Computational Thinking

Imagine you are trying to solve a giant jigsaw puzzle with hundreds of pieces. At first, the puzzle may seem difficult. Instead of trying to solve everything at once, you might first separate the edge pieces, group similar colours together, and then connect small sections until the complete picture appears.

This is exactly how Computational Thinking works. Rather than trying to solve a large problem all at once, we use four important thinking skills that help us to work in a logical and organised way. These skills are used not only by computer scientists but also by doctors, engineers, architects, teachers, and many other professionals.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems also depend on these four skills to process information and solve problems.

The Four Skills

1. Decomposition – Break the Problem into Smaller Parts

Large problems often become easier when they are divided into smaller tasks.

*This process is called **Decomposition**.*

Example: Its school Annual Day.

Let's organise the event and divide the work into smaller tasks such as:

- Practising performances
- Preparing the guest list
- Decorating the stage, sound and lights
- Managing refreshments
- Preparing certificates

Each team works on one part, making the entire event easier to organise.



2. Pattern Recognition – Find Similarities

Many problems have things in common.

*Recognising these similarities helps us to solve new problems faster because we can use ideas that worked before. This skill is called **Pattern Recognition**.*

Example: lets notice that every Monday your school

assembly begins with the National Anthem, followed by the morning thought and then announcements.

After observing this for several weeks, you begin to expect the same sequence every Monday. Recognising this repeating pattern helps you predict what will happen next.



3. Abstraction – Focus on What Matters

Sometimes a problem contains information that is not important for solving it.

Abstraction means concentrating only on the useful details while ignoring unnecessary information. This makes the problem simpler and easier to understand.

Example: Suppose your friend asks for directions to the school library.

You do not need to describe every classroom, notice board, or flower pot along the way. Instead, you mention only the important landmarks that help your friend to reach the library.



4. Algorithm Design – Create Step-by-Step Instructions

*Once we understand a problem, we create a clear sequence of steps to solve it. This sequence is called an **algorithm**.*

Example: Making a sandwich can be written as a simple algorithm:

- Take two slices of bread.

- Spread butter.
- Add vegetables or filling.
- Place the second slice on top.
- Cut the sandwich.
- Serve.

If these steps are followed in order, the sandwich can be prepared successfully every time.



Algorithm: An algorithm is a clear sequence of step-by-step instructions used to complete a task or solve a problem.

Computational Thinking in Everyday Life

Many people believe that Computational Thinking is useful only for computer programmers or people who work with technology. In reality, we all use Computational Thinking in our daily lives—often without even realising it.

Every day, we solve problems, make decisions, follow instructions, and organise information. Whether we are preparing for school, cooking a meal, planning a journey, or completing a science project, we naturally think through problems step by step. Computational Thinking helps us to perform these tasks more efficiently by making our thinking organised, logical, and systematic.



AI Connection

Whenever an AI system performs a task, it uses these four Computational Thinking skills together.

For example, when an AI assistant answers a question, it may:

- Break the question into smaller parts (Decomposition).
- Recognise important words and patterns (Pattern Recognition).
- Ignore unnecessary information (Abstraction).
- Generate the answer through organised steps (Algorithm Design).

Although these processes happen very quickly, they follow a logical sequence behind the scenes.

★ Did You Know?

The four Computational Thinking skills are useful even when you are not using a computer. They can help you to plan a family trip, organise your study schedule, prepare for an examination, or solve a difficult maths problem.



Thinking Skills **HOTS!!**

Imagine situation try to identify which Computational Thinking skill is being used.

Everyday Situations That Use Computational Thinking

Planning Your School Day

Before leaving home, you may think about the things you need for the day.

You might ask yourself:

- Which books are needed today?
- Have I packed my homework?
- Do I need my sports uniform?
- Is my water bottle filled?
- Have I packed my lunch?

Without realising it, you are breaking one large task into several smaller tasks. This helps you to avoid forgetting important items.

Planning the Best Route

Imagine your family is travelling to a museum.

There are several possible roads to reach the destination.

You may consider:

- Which road is shorter?
- Which road has less traffic?
- Which road is safer?
- How much time will each route take?

After comparing different options, you choose the most suitable one.

Navigation apps use a similar process. They compare thousands of possible routes in just a few seconds before suggesting the best one.

Byte's Smart Tip

Whenever a problem feels difficult, don't try to solve everything at once. Break it down, look for patterns, focus on what matters, and solve it one step at a time.

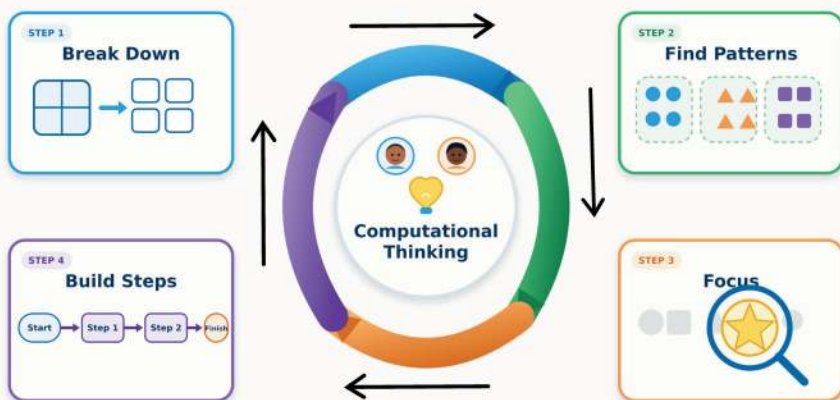


The Four-Steps of Computational Thinking Process

When solving any problem, we do not usually jump straight to the answer. Good problem solvers follow a logical process. Each step helps them to understand the problem better and reduces the chances of making mistakes.

Computational Thinking follows four connected steps that work together. These steps can be used for solving school assignments, planning events, designing games, building robots, creating AI systems, or even organising everyday tasks. Let's understand how these four steps work together.

The Computational Thinking Cycle



Step 1 – Break Down the Problem (Decomposition)

Step 2 – Find Patterns (Pattern Recognition)

Step 3 – Focus on Important Details (Abstraction)

Step 4 – Build the Solution (Algorithm Design)

Putting It All Together

Suppose your class wants to organise a Tree Plantation Drive.



Step	What You Do
Break Down	List all the tasks such as selecting plants, arranging tools, assigning student groups, and watering plants.
Find Patterns	Observe how previous school events were organised successfully.
Focus	Keep only the important information such as location, number of plants, and responsibilities.
Build Steps	Create a clear action plan that everyone can follow.

Chapter Check-Up

A. Fill in the Blanks

1. Breaking a large problem into smaller tasks is called _____.
2. Finding similarities between problems is known as _____.
3. Ignoring unnecessary information is called _____.
4. A sequence of step-by-step instructions is called an _____.

B. Write True(T) or False (F)

1. Computers can guess missing instructions.
2. Computational Thinking helps us to solve everyday problems.
3. Algorithms should be arranged in a logical order.
4. Abstraction means including every small detail.

Try It Yourself !!

Thinking Challenge

Read each situation below and identify which Computational Thinking skill is being used.

Situation	Which Skill?
1.A student divides a science project into smaller tasks.	_____
2.A doctor focuses only on symptoms related to the illness and ignores unrelated information.	_____
3.A navigation app suggests the fastest route after comparing several roads.	_____
4.A teacher prepares step-by-step instructions for a classroom activity.	_____

Quick Activity– Plan a Healthy School Lunch

Imagine your class is preparing a Healthy School Lunch Day.



Computational Thinking Skill	Your Ideas
Break Down	What smaller tasks are needed?
Find Patterns	What has worked well during previous class events?
Focus	Which details are most important?
Build Steps	Write four simple steps for organising the lunch.

Discuss your answers with your classmates. Notice that different groups may create different plans, but all should follow the four Computational Thinking steps.



Real World Connection



Warehouses around the world use intelligent robots to move products safely from one location to another. Hospitals also use delivery robots to transport medicines and medical supplies. These robots do not "think" like humans—they follow carefully designed computational processes.

Real-Life Case Studies in Computational Thinking

Case Study 1 : Organising a School Science Fair

Every year, many schools organise a Science Fair where students display working models and experiments. Although visitors see a well-organised event, a great deal of planning happens behind the scenes.

Imagine that you are the student coordinator responsible for organising the event. At first, the task may seem too large to manage. However, by using Computational Thinking, the work becomes much easier.

Teacher's Note: These pages help students apply the four Computational Thinking skills to familiar real-life situations. The examples are intentionally different from those used in earlier pages to avoid repetition.

Step 1 – Break Down the Problem

Instead of thinking about the Science Fair as one large task, divide it into smaller responsibilities.

Step 2 – Find Patterns

Look at how previous school events were organised.

Step 3 – Focus on Important Information

Not every detail is equally important.

Step 4 – Build the Plan

Finally, prepare a sequence of actions.



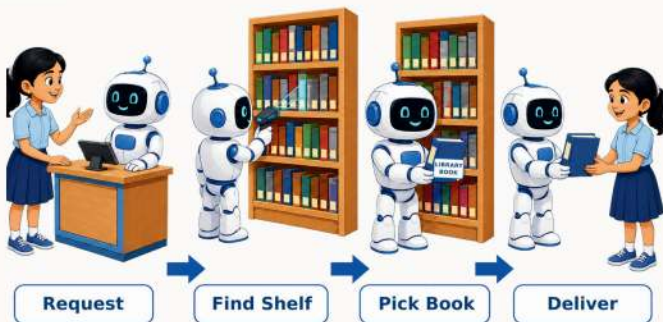
Case Study 2 : A Robot That Delivers Library Books

Imagine your school introduces a small robot that helps to deliver library books. A student enters the name of a book on a tablet.

The robot must now decide:

- Where is the correct shelf?
- Is the book available?
- Which route is shortest?
- Are there any obstacles?
- Has the correct book been

picked?



Although this happens quickly, the robot is actually solving several smaller problems.

Applying Computational Thinking

Decomposition: The robot divides its work into separate tasks.

Pattern Recognition: The robot remembers and recognises these patterns, which helps it to work faster

Abstraction: The robot ignores information that does not help.

Algorithm Design: The robot follows instructions in order.

Human Thinking and Computational Thinking

Suppose two students are asked to organise their classroom bookshelf.

Student A

Begins immediately.
Moves books randomly.
Often changes their mind.
Takes longer to finish.



Student B

First observes the books.
Group them by subject.
Place larger books together.
Arrange them alphabetically.
Checks the final order.
Finishes more quickly.



Both students complete the task, but Student B uses Computational Thinking.

Comparison Table

Ordinary Approach	Computational Thinking Approach
Start immediately	Understand the problem first
Solve everything together	Divide into smaller tasks
Guess the next step	Follow a logical plan
Ignore patterns	Look for similarities
May repeat mistakes	Learn from previous solutions
Can become confusing	Stay organised throughout

Why Does Computational thinking Matter?

Computational Thinking is not about making people think like machines. Instead, it teaches people to:

- organise ideas clearly;
- make thoughtful decisions;
- reduce mistakes;
- solve problems confidently;
- work effectively with AI technologies.

These skills are valuable in school, at home and in almost every future career.

Think and Discuss

Work with a partner. Choose one everyday activity such as:

- organising a bookshelf,
- planning a family trip,
- preparing for an examination,
- arranging a sports event,
- planting a garden.

Discuss how you would use the four Computational Thinking skills to complete the task successfully. There may be more than one correct solution.

How Computational Thinking Powers Real AI Systems

Purpose of this section: Students discover that the four Computational Thinking skills they have learned are used by AI systems around the world. The focus is on understanding how AI solves problems, not on technical details.

AI Around Us

How AI Solves Everyday Problems

Artificial Intelligence is becoming a part of our everyday lives. Whether we are travelling, shopping, studying, communicating with friends, or watching videos, AI is often working quietly in the background.

Although AI systems can perform many impressive tasks, they do not think exactly like humans. Instead, they follow carefully designed computational processes. They analyse data, recognise patterns, ignore unnecessary information, and make decisions based on the information available.

Let's explore how Computational Thinking helps AI to solve everyday problems.

AI in Navigation	AI in Language Translation	AI in Online Shopping
Imagine your family is driving to a new place. A navigation app may suggest the fastest route.	Suppose you receive a message written in another language.	When you shop online, you often see suggestions such as: "You may also like..."
To do this, the AI system: - collects information about different roads - checks traffic conditions - looks for road closures - estimates travel time - compares several possible routes; - recommends the most suitable one.	A translation app first: - identifies the language - understands the words - studies sentence patterns - chooses suitable translations - checks grammar before showing the final result.	The AI system studies: - products you viewed, - previous purchases, - popular items, - customer preferences.
The AI is using Decomposition, Pattern Recognition, Abstraction, and Algorithm Design together.	The translation appears instantly, but many organised computational steps happen behind the scenes.	It compares this information with similar shopping patterns before recommending products.

Revision Summary

- ✓ Computational Thinking is a logical way of solving problems by breaking them into smaller, manageable parts.
- ✓ The four Computational Thinking skills are Decomposition, Pattern Recognition, Abstraction, and Algorithm Design.
- ✓ People use Computational Thinking in everyday activities such as planning, organising, cooking, studying, and travelling.
- ✓ Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems use Computational Thinking to process information, recognise patterns, and make decisions.
- ✓ AI supports people in many fields, but humans remain responsible for making important decisions.
- ✓ Working together, humans and AI can solve problems more effectively than either working alone.

Glossary

Computational Thinking: A systematic way of solving problems by breaking them into smaller parts, recognising patterns, focusing on important information, and creating step-by-step solutions.

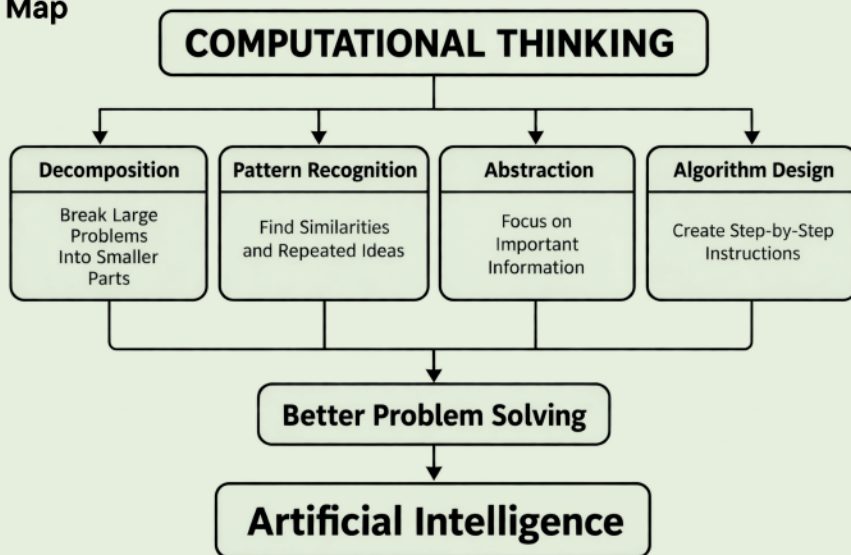
Decomposition: Breaking a large problem into smaller and manageable parts.

Pattern Recognition: Finding similarities or repeated ideas that help to solve problems more efficiently.

Abstraction: Focusing only on the important information while ignoring unnecessary details.

Algorithm: A clear sequence of step-by-step instructions used to complete a task or solve a problem.

Mind Map



Exercise

A. Fill in the Blanks. Choose the correct word from the box.

Algorithm • Abstraction • Pattern Recognition • Decomposition

1. _____ means breaking a large problem into smaller parts.
2. _____ helps us identify similarities in different situations.
3. _____ means focusing only on the important information.
4. A _____ is a sequence of step-by-step instructions.

B. Write True(T) or False(F).

1. Computational Thinking is useful only for computer programmers.
2. AI systems follow organised steps to solve problems.
3. Humans and AI always make decisions in exactly the same way.
4. Algorithms help to complete tasks in the correct order.

C. Match the Following.

Column A

1. Decomposition
2. Pattern Recognition
3. Abstraction
4. Algorithm

Column B

- a. Step-by-step instructions
- b. Break a problem into smaller parts
- c. Ignore unnecessary information
- d. Find similarities

D. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).

1. Which Computational Thinking skill helps us to divide a large task into smaller parts?
a) Pattern Recognition. b) Algorithm Design c) Decomposition. d) Abstraction
2. Which of the following is an example of an algorithm?
a) Guessing the answer b) Looking at a picture c) Choosing a favourite colour
d) Following step-by-step instructions to prepare a sandwich
3. Why is Pattern Recognition useful?
a) It makes problems larger. b) It ignores important information.
c) It replaces human thinking.
d) It helps identify similarities that can be used to solve new problems.
4. Which statement about AI is correct?
a) AI always makes better decisions than humans.
b) AI can work without instructions or data. c) AI never needs data.
d) AI uses Computational Thinking to process information and assist people.



HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)!!

1. Imagine your school is organising a Book Donation Drive. Explain how you would use the four Computational Thinking skills to organise the event successfully.
2. A robot is asked to clean a classroom but is given unclear instructions. What problems might the robot face? How could better Computational Thinking improve the instructions?
3. AI can analyse information very quickly, but humans still make many important decisions. Why do you think people should always remain responsible for final decisions?

F. Short Answer Questions

1. What is Computational Thinking?
2. What is decomposition? Give one everyday example.
3. How does pattern recognition help us to solve problems?
4. What is abstraction? Why is it useful?
5. What is an algorithm?
6. How do Computational Thinking skills help AI systems to solve problems?

G. Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the four Computational Thinking skills with suitable examples from everyday life.
2. Describe how Computational Thinking helps people to solve complex problems step by step.
3. Explain the difference between decomposition and abstraction. Give one example of each.
4. Imagine you are designing an AI system to help organise books in a school library. Explain how the four Computational Thinking skills would be used to solve the problem.

H. Think and Explain

Read the situation carefully. Your school is organising a Book Donation Drive. The tasks are:

- Collect donated books.
- Check whether the books are in good condition.
- Sort the books by subject.
- Label each book.
- Arrange the books on shelves.
- Open the donation corner for students.

Answer the following questions.

1. Arrange the tasks in the most logical order.
2. Which task should be completed first? Why?
3. Explain how Computational Thinking would help students to organise the Book Donation Drive successfully.

I. Real-Life Problem Solving

The school library receives hundreds of books every month. Librarians need to organise them quickly so that students can easily find the books they need.

Work in pairs and discuss the following questions.

- How can decomposition help to divide this large task into smaller parts?
- What patterns could the librarian identify while sorting the books?
- Which information can be ignored using abstraction?
- What algorithm could the librarian follow to organise the books efficiently?
- How could AI assist the librarian without replacing them?

J. Byte's Challenge

Complete the following tasks into computational thinking cycle.

- Preparing a healthy breakfast

AI Lab: Try with AI & Compare

Activity 1 – Compare Your Plan with an AI Assistant

After completing your own plan, ask a teacher-approved AI assistant to suggest how the event could be organised. Use a simple prompt such as:

"Help me to organise a Green School Day for my school. Suggest the main tasks in the correct order."

Do not enter any personal information such as your name, address, phone number, school login details, or passwords.



Compare Both Plans

Question	My Plan	AI's Plan
Did all important tasks appear?		
Were the steps arranged logically?		
Which plan was easier to understand?		
Did the AI suggest any useful new ideas?		
Was anything unnecessary or incorrect?		

Activity 2 – Becoming a Better Problem Solver

After comparing your work with the AI assistant, think about what you learned. Good problem solvers do not simply accept the first answer they see. They improve their ideas by checking facts, asking questions, and making thoughtful changes. Reflection helps us to become better learners.

Reflection Questions

Answer the following questions.

1. Which Computational Thinking skill helped you the most? Why?
2. Did the AI assistant suggest any ideas that you had not considered?
3. Did you find anything in the AI response that needed improvement?
4. Why should people always check AI-generated information before using it?

Key Takeaway

Computational Thinking helps us to organise our ideas and solve problems step by step. AI can support us by processing information quickly and suggesting possible solutions, but people must always think critically, verify information, and make responsible decisions. The best results come when humans and AI work together.

