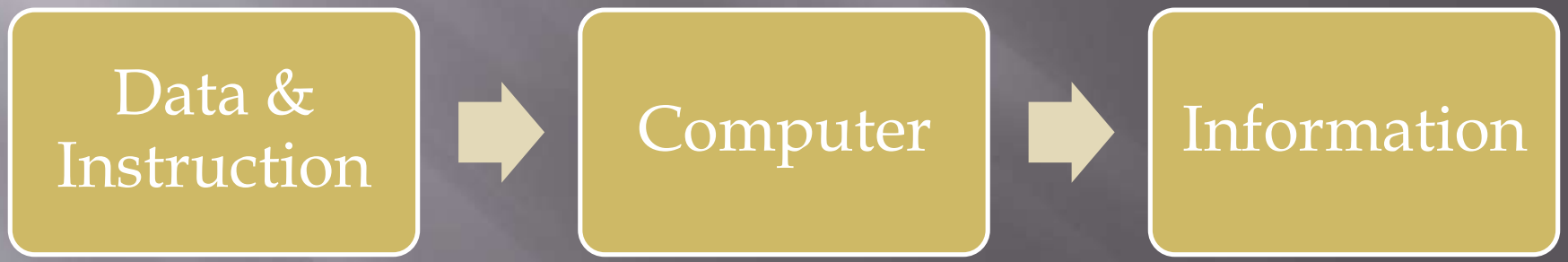
Functions of Different Units of Computer

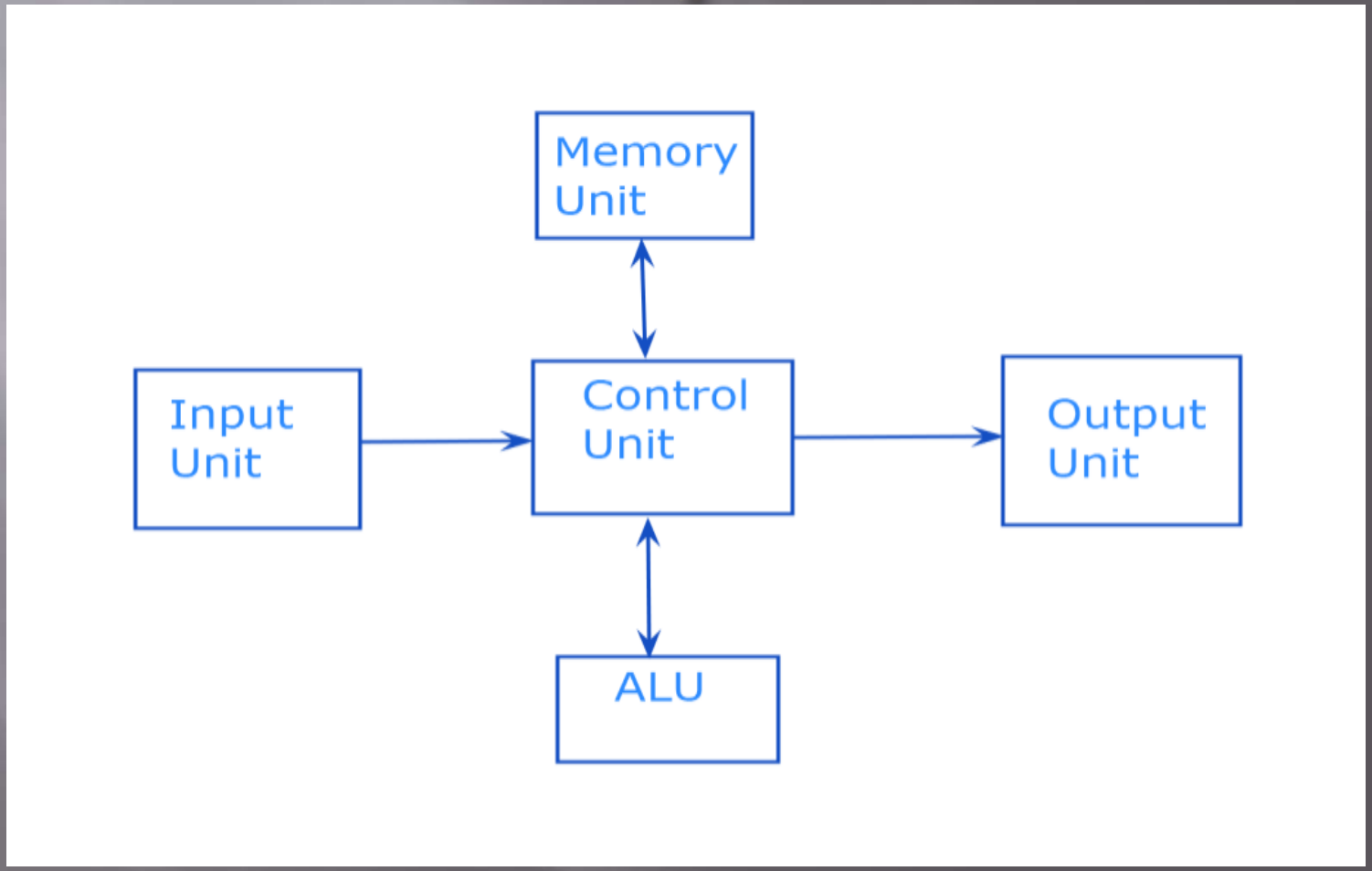
What is a Computer

- Computer is an electronic device which can accept set of instructions and data, it can execute the set of instructions automatically to give useful results.

Computer is a Data Processing Machine



Block diagram of Computer



Input Unit

- Data and instructions can be entered into computer through the input unit.
- Examples of input units are key board, mouse, scanner etc.
- Note that computers can understand binary language(symbols 1 and 0).
- Input unit convert input data into binary codes.

Output Unit

- The output Unit provides result of data processing to the user.
- Examples of output devices are printer, monitor.
- The output device converts binary codes of the computer result into human readable form.

MEMORY UNIT

- The recent programs and data used by the computer are stored in primary storage.
- Primary storage is expensive.
- Example of Primary storage is RAM which volatile in nature.
- When computer is switched off the information gets erased.

SECONDARY STORAGE

- It is non-volatile and can store large amount of data.
- Example Hard Disk, magnetic Tape, DVD, CD

ALU (Arithmetic Logic Unit)

- It performs calculations required by the computer.
- It performs both arithmetic operations (+, -, *, /) and logical operations (AND, OR, NOT).

CONTROL UNIT

- It is central nervous system of entire computer.
- It manages and controls all the components of the Computer System.
- The control unit reads one instruction from memory at a time, it interprets the instruction (What type of Instruction) then it directs other units to do the required job.
- For example if it is an arithmetic operation such as add, then it supplies required data to ALU and directs it to perform add operation