



1.2.2 Translators

1. Before code can be executed, a translator must be used.

a) State the purpose of a translator.

[1 mark]

b) Explain **two** differences between a compiler and an interpreter.

[4 marks]

c) Describe the role of an assembler.

[2 marks]

2. A coding team is looking at writing a new closed source application that converts audio, image and video files from one format to another. They intend to sell copies of the program when it is complete.

They investigate three programming languages they could use, including:

- C++, which is compiled to machine code
- Java, which compiles to an intermediate code that then runs off a virtual machine
- JavaScript, which runs from an interpreter in a web browser.

Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the three options above and justify which option you would recommend.

[9 marks]

