

Try this... or something else...

1. Verb - Past Tense
2. Proper Noun
3. Noun

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In the early 1980s, when microcomputers began to enter American schools, there were so few of them that they were usually _____ Verb - Past Tense _____ least at the elementary school level--in teachers' classrooms. A school might have a total of four or five _____ Proper Noun _____ IIe's, possibly bought by the parents' association, and the teachers to whom they were given were not so sure whether they liked them or what to do with them. A couple of years later, when the school made a substantial investment in computers, the tendency became to group them in what schools called computer "labs." The original set was most likely also removed from the classrooms, even though the teachers in many cases had by now fallen in love with them. At this point, school principals were inclined to cite _____ Noun _____ considerations: how would it look for one classroom to benefit from a computer while its next-door neighbor did not?

The computer lab was a solution to a problem: how could schools most easily deal with an innovation about which school personnel had little knowledge and a lot of anxiety? The solution to this problem (as to others that have faced schools) was to isolate microcomputers in their own spaces, with their own teaching personnel, and their own curricula (Budin and Taylor, 1996). The solution was an administrative one that had little connection to educational considerations.