

# Computer Concepts – Buying a Computer

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The semester begins with an overview of the computer and the components that make up a computer.

**Objective:** Understand the different components of the computer. At the end of the unit, students should be able to recognize and understand components and what functions they perform.

**Day 1** – students review the vocabulary terms and work on a “Concepts Review” assignment in small groups.

**Day 2** – I discuss the assignment with the students and lead a discussion expanding on the vocabulary terms. The focal point is looking at the terms and understanding what they mean to us from a standpoint of shopping for a new computer. The last 20 minutes of class, students will begin to research buying a computer. They are given a budget of \$1,000. They may use websites such as [www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com) to look at finished model computers, or they may go to sites such as [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com) to build a personalized computer by selecting different components.

**Day 3** – Students will now research 2 additional computers, comparing and contrasting these with the one they selected the previous day. After comparing the computers, they will have to make a decision as to the one they would most like to purchase (all while staying within budget). Students need to explain their choices.

## Student Table

	Student Wants	Computer 1	Computer 2	Computer 3
Windows Vista/XP? (editions)				
Office 2007 edition				
Brand of computer				
Processor (brand and speed)				
RAM (amount)				
Hard Disk (size)				
Monitor (type & size)				
Printer (type & speed)				
Speakers				
Antivirus Software				
Firewall				
System price				
Additional costs				
Total price				