

Buying a Computer Project

Overview

Buying a computer can be a daunting task. When you purchase a computer you have to consider many different things. You need to think about how you would use a computer. What hardware will you need? How do you decide how much processor, RAM, graphics, or disk you will need? How can you stay on budget? The real confusing thing about computers is that there are many parts, and they all affect the usefulness of the machine. In addition, each part has various types that may or may not be best for you. You should do plenty of research to determine what the best machine will be for your money.

To Do

Pretend you are purchasing a computer and printer and you have \$1,500.00. Whatever you don't spend, you get to keep. You will use a Google Sheet to organize your research, write a short paper explaining your choices, and a slide presentation to "convince your family" to make the purchase.

Part 1

You need to write at least 5 sentences answering the following questions as a response to the Part 1 Discussion Board:

1. What can you do with a computer while you are still in high school and after you graduate?
 - a. You should be thinking about activities that you will use the computer for (such as research papers or PowerPoint presentations) and therefore the kinds of application programs you will need (such as Office 2019).
2. What parts of the computer are the most important for your goals?
 - a. For example, you may state that you need word processing software to type reports and a color laser printer for reports, graphs, and charts. Then a listing of MS Word and a color printer should be listed.

Part 2

Got to www.pcmag.com. Click on the Best Products link of the top of the screen to indicate the type of computer you would like to purchase (laptop or desktop).

- Next, search for computers in your price range. (Remember, you are buying a computer AND printer!)
- Browse through the computers that fit in your price and priorities.
- Click on computers that interest you. Read the Pros, Cons, and Bottom Line.
- Click on Reviews, Comments, and Specs to learn more.
- Finally, choose two computers you think would best meet your needs. Complete the assignment below.

Use the Google Doc ([linked here](#)) to fill out the table describing the computer system's features. Include a hyperlink to the website you would purchase your computer from. Submit this document under Part 2 Choosing a Computer.

Part 3

Got to www.pcmag.com. Click on the Best Products link of the top of the screen and choose Best Printers.

- Next, search for printers in your price range. (Remember, you are buying a computer AND printer!)
- Browse through the printers that fit in your price and priorities.
- Click on printers that interest you. Read the Pros, Cons, and Bottom Line.
- Click on Reviews, Comments, and Specs to learn more.
- Finally, choose two printers you think would best meet your needs. Complete the Google Doc below.

Use the Google Doc ([linked here](#)) to fill out the table describing the computer system's features. Include a hyperlink to the website you would purchase your computer from. Submit this document under *Part 3 Choosing a Printer*.

Part 4

After comparing the computers and printers in the previous sections, in a new Google Doc write one paragraph (5+ sentences) discussing which computer printer combo you would buy and why? Name the document *My Choice* and submit under *Part 4 My Choice*.

Part 5

Are there any other accessories you would want or need to go with your new computer and printer? Do you have money left over? Do you need more money?

- Research accessories and their costs.
- In a Google Sheet make a list of all the items you plan to “purchase”, how much it would cost, and where you would buy it from.
- Total the cost of all the items using the SUM function
- Name the document ***Buying a Computer Spreadsheet***.
- Submit under *Part 5 Spreadsheet*

Part 6

Finally, you will create a google slide presentation summarizing all this information using all the techniques we are learning in class.

Presentation format specifications:

- The first slide should contain your Title Page information.
- The second slide should be a project introduction.
- Slides 3-6 should be a separate description of each part of this project.
- Name the document ***Buying a Computer Presentation***
- You will submit the slides and record yourself presenting it using Screencastify.
 - More directions on recording later

