

Literacy Assignment #1 Computer Hardware

Student Name:
Class Section:
Date Submitted:

Our Computer Concepts book was written in 1998 but much of the information is still valid. Read through pages 2 – 16 and answer the questions below.

1. Why was it funny when Elena said that she didn't use computers? (p. 2)
2. What is a *mainframe computer*? (p. 3)
3. Where, in Souris, would workers use *dumb terminals*?
4. What is a *local area network (LAN)*?
5. What components does a typical *personal computer (PC)* contain? (p. 4)
6. What is the *motherboard*? (p. 5)
7. What is a *bus*? (p. 7)

8. Why is a *system clock* important for a computer to work properly?

9. What is the *microprocessor*? (p. 8)

10. What is the function of the processor's *control unit*?

11. Where does data get stored while it's being operated on?

12. Approximately how many bytes are in a kilobyte? a megabyte? a gigabyte? (p. 9)

13. What does *ROM* stand for and what is it? (p. 10)

14. What does *BIOS* stand for and what does it control?

15. What does *RAM* stand for and what service does it provide?

16. What does *multitasking* allow the computer to do?

17. What is *cache memory* used for? (p. 11)

18. Where is *virtual memory* designated from and what does it enable a person to do?

19. List two problems which using *virtual memory* may cause. (p. 12)

20. How does a *magnetic storage device* work? (p. 13)

21. What can wreck the information which has been stored on a *magnetic storage device*?

22. List 4 types of *magnetic storage devices*.

23. List 2 types of *optical storage devices* which you would have used.

24. What is the advantage of connecting to a power bar equipped for *surge suppression*? (p. 15)

25. Why does a computer have a *fan* installed inside its case?