

Instructional Days: 3-4

Topic Description: Students complete a project related to choosing appropriate components for a personal computer.

Objectives:

The student will be able to:

- Describe the uses for computer hardware components
- Choose hardware components for various types of users

Outline of the Lesson:

- Research and development of computer buying project (85 minutes)
- Project presentations by student teams (25 minutes)

Student Activities:

- Student teams research and complete projects.
- Student teams present projects.

Teaching/Learning Strategies:

- Distribute project information and rubric.
 - Have students work in the same teams as they did on the previous day.
 - Explain project and rubric; answer questions; Have each team choose one of the interviews they did to use for the project.
- Project presentations by student teams
 - Have each team discuss the scenario they used, display their comparison chart and explain which computer was chosen and why.

Resources:

- Computer Buying Project
- Computer Components Checklist
- Computer Buying Project Sample Rubric

Computer Buying Project

Choose one of the interviews of buying a new computer to use for this project. Your task is to give them at least 4 options and then give them advice on which one to buy. Your project will be presented to the class.

The final product can be a:

- PowerPoint
- Debate
- Skit
- Video
- Other approved product

Your final product should have:

- A title with group members' names
- The questions and responses from the interview chosen
- Computer comparison chart
- Which computer is chosen
- Justification for choosing that computer, including completion of the Computer Components Checklist.
- You should be prepared to answer questions about your choices from other students.

Example computer comparison chart (more information can be added):

	Dell Inspiron	MacBook
Laptop or Desktop		
Processor (CPU)		
Operating System		
Memory (RAM)		
Hard Drive (storage)		
Optical Drive		
Monitor or Screen Size		
Video Card		
Sound Card		
Other Accessories		
Cost		

Student Grouping:

You will be in a group of up to 4 students.

Computer Components Checklist

Below are the different components for you to investigate:

1. Processor
2. Operating System
3. Memory
4. Hard Drive
5. Optical Drive
6. Monitor
7. Video Card
8. Sound Card
9. Speakers
10. Keyboard
11. Mouse
12. Modem

For each of the components write down:

- The name
- What it is used for
- What are the different options or sizes for the components
- Why you included the component in the list of components for the person who is buying the computer.

Computer Buying Project Sample Rubric

Group Members Names: (up to 4)

Do you have?	Points Possible	Yes	No	Points Earned
Product				
Title with group members' names	5			
Interview scenario is described	10			
Computer comparison chart with at least 4 options	10			
Chart has specifications of options	5			
Options on chart fit your scenario	10			
Show justification for your computer choice	10			
Your choice fits the scenario	10			
Visuals of your choices (pictures or video of choices)	10			
Computer Components Checklist	5			
Presentation				
Present all required parts of project	10			
All group members participate	5			
Able to answer questions	10			
Extra Credit				
Project exhibits creativity above and beyond	Up to 10			
TOTAL:	100 + 10			