

Chapter 19 Computer Basics

Section 19.1 Computer Hardware

Section Summary with Key Terms and Academic Vocabulary

Computer Hardware People and businesses depend on computers to handle all kinds of tasks. Computers record data and keep track of records. Businesses also use them to provide workers with the information, tools, and training they need to do their jobs. Many people use a personal computer at home and at work, where they may be part of a network. A computer system includes three main parts: hardware, software, and data. Its physical components make up the hardware. The four hardware elements found in each computer system—a processor; memory; input and output devices; and storage devices—enable a computer to function as needed.

Key Terms _____

computer An electronic device that accepts, processes, stores, and outputs data at high speeds, based on programmed instructions

ergonomics Design factors for the workplace that are intended to maximize productivity by minimizing a worker's discomfort

e-learning Electronic learning; the process of learning online

hardware The physical components of a computer system

random access memory (RAM) A computer memory used to hold all of the data and instructions required during operations

Academic Vocabulary _____

link To couple or connect

quote To state the current price of something

element A constituent part

random Lacking a definite plan, purpose, or pattern