**CMW Project: Purchasing a Computer**

**Standard:** BCS-CMW-5.Students will compare and contrast computer features.

a. Choose computers based on commercial descriptions for use in different contexts.

**Part I. Do Your Homework -- Resources & Videos:**

**How to Choose the Right Processor – Step 1**

[**http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/tech-tips-and-tricks/techtips-chooseprocessor.html**](http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/tech-tips-and-tricks/techtips-chooseprocessor.html)

**How to Choose the Right Processor – Step 2**

<http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/processor-comparison/how-to-choose-the-right-processor.html>

**Help Me Choose: Intel Processors – Step 3**

<http://content.dell.com/us/en/business/d/help-me-choose/hmc-processor-intel>

Episode 2 – What’s Inside the Computer

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Dqb8RShTO4&feature=relmfu>

Episode 3 – All About the Processor

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Dqb8RShTO4&feature=relmfu>

Episode 4 -- All About the Motherboard

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BKlj5zxKSU&feature=relmfu>

Episode 7 – All About Temporary Memory

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bC02EJxLyA&feature=relmfu>

Episode 8 – All About Permanent Memory

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urHNpBtt5cs&feature=relmfu>

Best Computer: How to Choose the Best One. <http://www.techradar.com/news/computing/best-computer-how-to-choose-the-right-one-935053>

How to Choose a Desktop Computer. <http://www.ehow.com/how_108470_choose-desktop-computer.html>

Choosing the Right Computer at ECU. <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-itcs/ace/upload/2012-ACE-Packet.pdf>

Computer Buying Guide – Consumer Reports. <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/computers/buying-guide.htm>

**Part II. 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

Using your word processor, create a table describing each computer component. For each part, include:

* Component name
* Picture of component
* Purpose of component
* Size options or sizes for the components

Save as: Period\_LastF\_Components

**Part III. Excel Spreadsheet – Create a Computer Comparison Chart with Prices (more information can be added):** Using the Internet, research at least four systems – two PC and two Mac’s. Display your data in a spreadsheet. Consider each of the following models:

* budget
* mid-range
* top-of-the-line
* extreme gamer's

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | PC’s - 2 | Mac’s - 2 |
| 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 | | |

**Answer the following questions:**

How do these systems differ?

Which component adds the most cost?

Where do the makers of the budget system cut corners to keep the hardware costs down?

What bundled software is included for the price?

Save as: Period\_LastF\_ExcelComparison

**Part IV. Interview.**

You have learned so much about computer components so far!! Using **goanimate.com** or similar web tool, create an interview for two of the following scenarios. You may work with a partner. Assume that you are the salesperson at an electronics store such as Best Buy, Fry’s, Sam’s Club, etc. Identify the computer you would recommend for each of the customers described below. The first two are described for you. You can create the other scenarios. Then, you will have to determine a ***list of at least 5 interview questions*** … again, assuming you are the salesperson ☺ Include each question and answer in your interview.

1. **Tech Newcomer – Your grandmother.** Grandma really does not want a computer but the family insists! She is scared to death of the computer! She prefers reading the Atlanta Journal while sipping her tea on Sunday mornings and enjoys receiving old-fashioned hand-written thank you notes. Your family feels like she is missing out on the family photos that everyone is sending with email and sharing through Facebook. If she had a computer she could keep up with current events, check the movie schedules, look at menus of nearby restaurants, etc. She is way too old to ever go electronic with her checkbook and would rarely use a word processor – she doesn’t know the keyboard ☹ What computer will you recommend for her to purchase?

Price

Brand

Specs

**WHY???**

1. **Family Coordinator -- Stay at home mom, always on the go!** This stay at home mom is president of the PTSA, secretary of her Garden club, and team mom for her son’s recreation league football team. She has three children that are involved in everything from tutoring, to piano lessons, to sports, etc. She has several calendars to keep up with, she manages her checkbook with Quicken, does her banking online, surfs the net, keeps track family photos—edits them with the photo editing software that came with her digital camera, downloads/uploads music to her iPod. What computer will you recommend for her to purchase?

Price

Brand

Specs

**WHY???**

1. **College Student**: You will write this scenario – be creative!: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Price

Brand

Specs

**WHY???**

1. **Digital Media Fan (Gamer)**: You will write this scenario – be creative!: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Price

Brand

Specs

**WHY???**

1. **Always Connected**: You will write this scenario – be creative!: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Price

Brand

Specs

**WHY???**