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CI 102

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Input Devices

A 1: Yes. You might want to consider a trackball mouse, which contains a rollerball.

That's correct. A trackball mouse is basically a traditional mouse that has been turned on its back. Because it has a rollerball that you move with your fingers, it's considered better for the wrist than an optical mouse.

A 2: Actually, wireless mice are available for desktop computers and notebooks.

That's correct. Wireless mice are available for all computers. Wireless mice use batteries and send data to the computer radio frequency or Bluetooth technologies. This will free Jae from having a cord interfering with his workspace.

A 3: No, most notebooks do not come with a mouse. Instead, you use a touchpad or trackpoint device.

You're correct. With notebooks, touchpads or trackpoint devices are used to interpret mouse clicks and move the cursor.

A 4: There are two main types of keyboards: QWERTY and Dvorak. Of these two, the QWERTY is the most common. Dvorak has a different placement of the keys, thus allowing you to type more efficiently and, therefore, faster.

That's right. Most desktop computers come with a standard keyboard, which uses the QWERTY keyboard layout. The Dvorak keyboard is the leading alternative keyboard, although it is not nearly as common as the QWERTY.

A 5 : Yes, you might want to consider a virtual laser keyboard or a flexible keyboard.

That's right. With a demand for more portability, recent development efforts have reduced the size and weight of keyboards. A virtual laser keyboard projects the image of a keyboard, and sensors detect the motion of your fingers as you "type." Flexible keyboards can be rolled up and taken with you.

A 6: Those keys are called function keys. They act as shortcut keys you press to perform special tasks.

That's correct. *Function keys* act as shortcut keys you press to perform special tasks. Each software application has its own set of tasks assigned to the function keys, although some are more universal.

A 7: To input data and commands, you can use a touchscreen.

Yes, that's correct. A touchscreen responds to commands initiated by a touch with a finger or stylus.

A 8: You could use a digital camera, a camcorder, a webcam, or a cell phone to capture imagery.

That's right. Digital cameras, camcorders, webcams, and cell phones are all devices used to input digital images and video into a computer.

Output Devices

A 1: Sure, LCD flat panel monitors are popular on new computers and as replacements or upgrades.

Good choice! Buying a new computer to replace a faulty monitor is too expensive, and cleaning it won't repair it if it stopped working.

A 2: You should consider buying a monitor with the highest native screen resolution.

Good choice. One of the first selection criteria for an LCD monitor would be to consider its native screen resolution. There are other factors such as contrast and brightness.

A 3: Yes. The bigger the monitor is, the more you can display.

That's correct. The bigger the monitor, the more you can display, and depending on what you want to display, size may matter.

A 4: It depends. If you need to print quickly and need very high-quality printouts, a laser printer is best.

That's right. If you need to print quickly and need very high quality printouts, a laser printer is best. However, the other option was also correct. Ink-jet printers can print professional-looking photos and cost less than laser printers.

Understanding the Parts

A 1: A byte is a term used to represent 8 bits of data. One byte can hold about one character, one number, or one symbol.

That's right. One byte holds 8 bits of data. One byte can represent a character, number, or symbol.

A 2: A bit is short for binary digit. Each bit represents a 1 or a 0.

That's absolutely right! A bit is short for binary digit. Each bit represents a 1 or a 0, or single binary digit.

A 3: A gigabyte is a little over a billion (1,073,741,824) bytes of data. A gigabyte can hold a whopping 786,432 pages of text.

A 4: A kilobyte is slightly over a thousand bytes (1,024 bytes), while a megabyte holds a little over a million (1,048,576) bytes.

A 5: Process speed is a measure of how many tasks the main chip in the computer can perform in one second. The "best" processor will depend on your particular needs and is not always the processor with

the highest processor speed (GHz). Four functions: 1. gathers data, 2. Processes that data into information, 3. Outputs data or information, 4. Stores data and information.

Exploring Storage Devices and Ports

A 1: That's right. The hard drive is your computer's primary device for permanent storage of software and documents. Today's internal hard drives have capacities as high as 1 TB, but they are not as portable as other storage devices.

A 2: You might want an external hard drive, which is often used to back up data that is contained on the internal hard drive in case a problem develops with the internal hard drive and data needs to be recovered.

You might want a Flash drive, convenient means of portable storage that can hold up to 64 GB of data.

You might want to use optical storage devices such as CDs and DVDs, which enables you to store audio and video. Blu-ray discs enable you to store HD video.

A 3: If you want your PC to read flash memory, your computer needs a slot into which you can insert the flash memory card.

A 4: Sure. There are expansion cards that you can install in your system unit to provide you with additional ports.

Sure. To add more ports to your computer you can use a device called the expansion hub.