

Daily Life - Buying a Computer (C0140)

Customer: So can you fix it?

Sales Clerk: I'm sorry sir. This computer is not broken or damaged. It's simply just too old! That's why your programs and applications are running slow. There really isn't much I can do.

Customer: What do you mean? I bought this computer just three years ago!

Sales Clerk: Yes, but technology is ever changing and technology is becoming obsolete faster and faster!

Customer: Ok, I know where this is going. How much will it cost me to get a new computer?

Sales Clerk: Well, this desktop over here is our latest model. It has a four gigahertz processor with sixteen gigabytes in RAM and a hard disk with one terabyte. Of course, it includes a mouse, keyboard and desk speakers.

Customer: I have no idea what you are talking about. I just want to know if it's good and if I will be able to play solitaire without the computer crashing or freezing all the time!

Sales Clerk: This PC is top of the line and I guarantee it will never freeze! If it does, we'll give you your money back!

Key Vocabulary

I have no idea	<i>phrase</i>	to be completely unaware of something
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freeze	<i>principle verb, present simple</i>	to suddenly stop functioning
where (something) is going	<i>phrase</i>	the direction of an event
ever changing	<i>phrase</i>	always becoming different
obsolete	<i>Adjective</i>	no longer useful
program	<i>common noun, singular</i>	a computer application
gigabyte	<i>common noun, plural</i>	unit to measure a computer's storage capacity
random access memory		part of computer that temporarily stores information
hard disk	<i>phrase</i>	part of computer that stores data

gigahertz	<i>common noun, non- variable</i>	measurement of computer processor speed
processor	<i>common noun, singular</i>	device in a computer that manages operations
crash	<i>principle verb, present progressive</i>	to suddenly stop functioning
guarantee	<i>principle verb, present simple</i>	to make a written promise

Supplementary Vocabulary

warranty	<i>common noun, singular</i>	a written promise that a seller will repair a product if a problem arises
laptop	<i>common noun, singular</i>	a portable computer

network	<i>common noun, sin- gular</i>	a system for communi- cating between comput- ers
evolve	<i>verb</i>	to change into a more advanced state
wireless mo- dem	<i>common noun, sin- gular</i>	a device that allows computers to communi- cate without wires