

Computer Hardware

In this section we are going to deal with vocabulary and structures needed to talk about and compare computer hardware.



1- Speaking

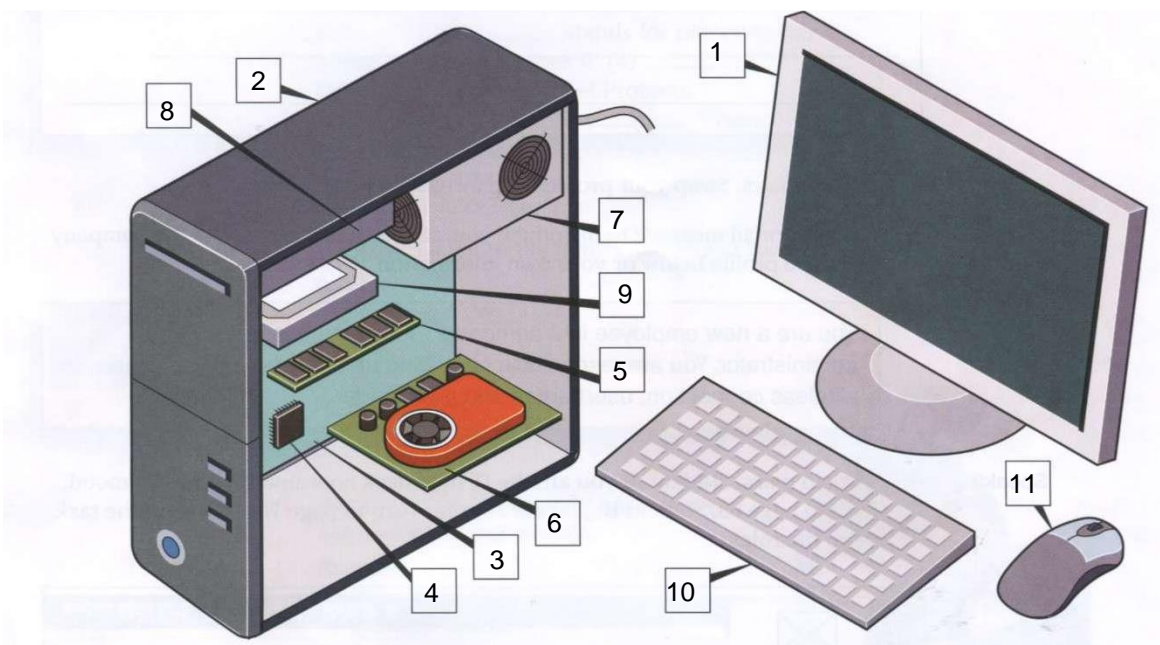
Make a list of all the computer hardware you use in your work or study.



2- Vocabulary

Label the diagram with the correct items 1-11.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1- monitor | 7- power supply unit |
| 2- case | 8- optical disk drive |
| 3- motherboard | 9- hard disk drive |
| 4- CPU (Central Processing Unit or Processor) | 10- keyboard |
| 5- main memory (RAM) | 11- mouse |
| 6- expansion cards (video, graphic) | |





3- Listening

Listen to two colleagues and complete this dialogue.

Bob: What do you think? Which (1)^{laptop} is better for the sales team?

Daisy: I'm not sure. This computer has a (2).....^{bigger} memory and I think it has a (3)^{better} processor.

Bob: And the other one?

Daisy: Well, it is (4)^{smaller}

Bob: And (5)^{latter}

Daisy: Yes, you're right. Lighter and smaller.

Bob: But the bigger one is (6)^{latter and smaller}

Daisy: So, what is our decision?

Bob: I'm not sure. Let's go for a coffee and discuss this again.



4- Language

Comparatives

We use comparative adjectives to compare two things or show change. The comparative form depends on the number of syllables in the adjective.

Let's see read some examples and rules.

For short adjectives we add -er (than) . Be careful of spelling.	<i>big</i>	bigger	<i>The new monitor was bigger than the old monitor.</i>
	<i>fast</i>	faster	<i>Your processor is faster than mine.</i>
	<i>easy</i>	easier	<i>It's easier to use than the other one.</i>
For long adjectives we use more/less (than) .	<i>difficult</i>	more/less difficult	<i>This version is more difficult to use than the old version.</i>
	<i>expensive</i>	more/less expensive	<i>His computer is less expensive than hers.</i>
	<i>reliable</i>	more/less reliable	<i>I think you should buy that CPU. It is more reliable than the one you have.</i>
Some comparatives are irregular.	<i>bad</i>	worse	<i>That screen resolution is much worse than before!</i>
	<i>good</i>	better	<i>I really like this mouse. It's so much better than the old one.</i>

Structure: in general, comparatives are used in the sentences with **THAN**

Mary	is	younger	than	Jane.
Mary's ears	are	bigger	than	Jane's.
verb	comparative (adjective + er)		than	

Study the charts below.

Adjectives with one syllable, add: 'er' or 'r' + 'than'	cold "In Canada, winter is <u>colder than</u> summer."	Adjectives with two or more syllables, add: 'more' + 'than'	ex-pen-sive "This book is <u>more expensive than</u> that book."	Irregular Comparative Adjectives <i>good</i> – better than <i>bad</i> – worse than <i>far</i> – farther than further than
Adjectives with two syllables that end in '-y', change '-y' to 'i' and add: '-er' + 'than'	hap-py "John is <u>happier than</u> David."	Adjectives that end in a single vowel and consonant: double the final letter before adding 'than'	big "Russia is <u>bigger than</u> Canada."	



5- Reading and speaking.

Read these product descriptions and make sentences using comparatives.

Example: *The AMD Ryzen 9 9950X is newer than AMD Ryzen 9 7950X.

	AMD Ryzen 9 9950X	AMD Ryzen 9 7950X
Price	\$623.28 - BUY	\$480.49 - BUY
Socket Type	AM5	AM5
CPU Class	Desktop	Desktop
Clockspeed	4.3 GHz	4.5 GHz
Turbo Speed	Up to 5.7 GHz	Up to 5.7 GHz
# of Physical Cores	16 (Threads: 32)	16 (Threads: 32)
Cache	L1: 1,280KB, L2: 16.0MB, L3: 64MB	L1: 1,024KB, L2: 16.0MB, L3: 64MB
TDP	170W	170W
Yearly Running Cost	\$31.03	\$31.03
Other		AMD Radeon Graphics
First Seen on Chart	Q3 2024	Q3 2022
# of Samples	138	4744
CPU Value	106.9	130.6
Single Thread Rating (% diff. to max in group)	4737 (0.0%)	4278 (-9.7%)
CPU Mark (% diff. to max in group)	66607 (0.0%)	62737 (-5.8%)



6- PRACTICE

A. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the adjective in parenthesis.

1. The screen resolution is (big)my monitor.
2. Smartphones are (compact) computers.
3. A more powerful computer will be (expensive)
4. Netbooks are (cheap)..... almost any brand-new laptop you'll find at retail outlets.
5. Netbooks' internal components are (powerful) those in regular laptops
6. Some high-tech solutions are (reliable) the technology they replaced.
7. This keyboard is much (small) a standard computer keyboard.
8. JavaScript is interpreted and a lot (slow) compiled code.
9. CPython is (efficient)most implementations.
10. Python is usually significantly (slow) compiled languages like C, C++ and Java.

C- Use the clues to write sentences. Follow the example.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Summer / winter / hot :
<i>Summer is hotter than winter.</i> | 8. My uncle / my aunt / funny : |
| 2. Football / bowling / exciting : | 9. The flu / a cold / bad : |
| 3. Asia / Europe / big : | 10. The sun / the moon / far : |
| 4. Weekends / weekdays / good : | 11. This movie / that movie / interesting : |
| 5. Cats / lions / small : | 12. January / August / cold : |
| 6. John / Stewart / busy : | 13. Tigers / giraffes / dangerous : |
| 7. Horses / cows / fast : | 14. I / my friend / tired : |
| | 15. My grandfather / my father / old : |

D- Find and correct the mistakes.



1. Joe is a badder student then Mia.
2. Mia is fater than Joe.
3. Joe isn't older that Mia.
4. Joe is moderner that Mia.
5. Mia is friendlier than Joe.
6. Mia is more nice than Joe.
7. Joe is a gooder at football than Mia.
8. Joe's pants are shorter Mia's.
9. English is difficulter then French.
10. Mia is a dancer better than Joe.

Sources:

Olejniczak, Maja. "English for Information Technology 1" Vocational English, Course Book. Pearson 2011.

https://showandtext.wordpress.com/2018/01/25/worksheets-comparatives-and-superlatives/basic-comparison-grammar-drills-grammar-guides-information-gap-acti_86239_1/

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/w/en/english-second-language-esl/101742>

<https://eslfriend.com/esl-grammar-preference-and-comparatives/>

<https://www.slideserve.com/Off2Class/a3-1-adjectives-comparatives-basics-free-esl-lesson>

* <https://www.cpubenchmark.net/compare/6211vs5031/AMD-Ryzen-9-9950X-vs-AMD-Ryzen-9-7950X>