

Installing & Configuring Hardware

Task 1: a) Think and write down what are the advantages and disadvantages of building your own PC. What would you recommend to a customer and why?

b) A customer is interested in buying a gaming computer for his children but is worried about the price of some of the components. Try to answer first the following (1 – 7) questions on your own. Take notes!

- | | |
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| 1 Why do I need such a powerful graphics card? | 5 OK, what type of monitor do you recommend? |
| 2 Can I spend less on the CPU? | 6 I suppose I'll need a big hard disk, too, right? |
| 3 And the motherboard? | 7 Can I at least get a cheap keyboard and mouse? |
| 4 Do I need much RAM? | |

Now match the correct answers (a-g) to the customer's questions (1-7) above

- a Although it houses all of the components, such as the graphics card and CPU, you don't have to spend a lot to get a good one.
- b It is important as it stores information that the CPU needs to use really quickly, for example things displayed on the screen. However, you can start with a mid-range amount and upgrade it easily later on.
- c It's a key part of a good gaming system. It turns the information from the CPU into the pictures that you see on the monitor. It needs to be very fast for gaming so the game runs smoothly.
- d Not necessarily. This is where your data gets saved, but online games don't take up much space because they aren't saved on your computer.
- e Well, this is the part that lets you see what's happening in the game. It doesn't need to be bigger than 24" but it is important to have a fast refresh rate, otherwise the game will look unclear.
- f You could, but because it processes every single instruction, I wouldn't recommend it. It's like the brain of the computer.
- g You could, yes. These are your input devices and are how you interact with the game. Gaming versions may have extra keys and buttons, but they don't make a big difference.

Task 2: a) Karen goes to *Computerland*. Listen to the dialogue and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false statements

1. Karen will use her PC to store a lot of music and films.
2. She's mainly going to use the PC for work.
3. The PC she has at the moment isn't powerful enough for the games she plays.
4. Karen can spend over £1,500 on her PC.
5. The salesperson recommends a processor which will let Karen work with more than one graphics package at a time.
6. The salesperson says that the video card will take up a lot of Karen's budget.

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b) How does the salesperson express his advice to Karen? Listen to the dialogue again and choose between **a**, **b** or **c**.

1 a. You shouldn't really think about ... b. You should really think about ... c. You should certainly think about ...	4 a. In my opinion... b. The better option would be... c. Your best option would be
2 a. I advise you to... b. My advice to you ... c. I'd advise you to ...	5 a. If I were in your position, b. If I were you, I would... c. If I were buying the computer, I would
3 a. You're going to need a ... b. You'll need a ... c. You need a...	6 a. My advice is to ... b. I'd advise that ... c. My advice would be to ...

Useful Language

Asking a customer for information

What software do you use on your PC?
What do you want/need your PC to be able to do?
Do you need to be able to run the software at the same time?
How much money do you want to spend?
Do you want to play games / use design software / ... on the PC?
What operating system / software / ... would you like to have?

Advising a customer

You should really/certainly think about ...
I'd advise you to ...
My advice would be to ...
You're going to need a ...
In my opinion ...
The better / Your best option would be ...
If I were you, I would ...
I'd suggest/recommend ...
Have you thought about ...?

annotations: pre-built: vorgefertigt - **word processing:** Textverarbeitung - **(to) store:** (Daten) speichern - **mostly:** hauptsächlich - **pretty:** ziemlich - **(to) handle sth:** mit etw zurechtkommen - **(to) stick with sth:** bei etw bleiben - **(to) compromise on sth:** bei etw Kompromisse eingehen - **capable:** fähig - **(to) eat into sth.:** etw schmälern - **(to) let sb down:** jdn im Stich lassen

Task 3: Role-play: advice about building a PC. Work with a partner to do the role-play. Use the language from Task 2.

Customer	PC specialist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begrüßen Sie den/die Verkäufer(in). Sagen Sie, dass Sie sich einen PC zusammenstellen möchten. Fragen Sie den Fachmann / die Fachfrau, was er/sie Ihnen raten würde. • Sagen Sie, dass Sie den Computer für Ihre Arbeit benötigen. Darüber hinaus werden Sie persönliche Bilder und Musik darauf speichern. • Sagen Sie, dass Sie nicht mehr als 800€ ausgeben möchten, obwohl Sie mehr zur Verfügung haben. • Sagen Sie, dass Sie Grafik- und Video-Software parallel verwenden werden. • Nehmen Sie den Rat an. Fragen Sie den Fachmann/die Fachfrau, welchen Prozessor er/sie empfehlen kann. • Fragen Sie, welche Grafikkarte Sie benötigen. • Fragen Sie, wie viel Arbeitsspeicher Sie benötigen würden. • Fragen Sie, welche Festplatte die beste Wahl wäre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begrüßen Sie den Kunden / die Kundin und bitten Sie Ihre Hilfe an. Fragen Sie den Kunden / die Kundin, wofür er/sie den Computer nutzen möchte. • Fragen Sie den Kunden / die Kundin, wie viel Geld er/sie für den Computer ausgeben möchte. • Fragen Sie den Kunden / die Kundin, welche Software er/sie für seine Arbeit benutzt. • Machen Sie den Kunden /die Kundin darauf aufmerksam, dass er/sie mehr investieren muss — ca. 1100€ —, um einen PC zusammen zu stellen, der stabil läuft und für diese Nutzung geeignet ist. • Schlagen Sie den Terra MSI Radeon RX 6650 XT. Sagen Sie dem Kunden /der Kundin, dass er sehr schnell ist. Machen Sie den Kunden/die Kundin darauf aufmerksam, dass alternativ die beste Wahl die NVIDIA Grafikkarte GeForce RTX 3090. Sie ist leistungstark, zwar teuer aber das Preis-Leistungsverhältnis stimmt. • Empfehlen Sie dem Kunden / der Kundin ein Minimum von 16 GB Speicher. • Raten Sie dem Kunden /der Kundin, in eine M.2 PCIE 4.0 SSD KINGSTON NV2 mit 500 GB Speicherkapazität zu investieren.