Roadmap to Computing Topic:
Computer Hardware and Software

Our third Roadmap Topic is 'Computer Hardware and Software.' The introductory talk (~20 minutes) is at

http://vimeo.com/15740505

Below are suggested related topics for research reports. There are many other possible topics. Whichever topic you choose, in addition to identifying and presenting as precisely as possible the core concept of the topic, you may explore its development, social impact, and related controversies, both technical and social/political.

ALU/FPU (Arithmetic and Logic Unit/Floating Point Unit)
API (Application Programming Interface)
BIOS (Basic Input/Output System)
JIT (Just In Time) compiler
address space
assembly language/machine language
bus
device driver/controller
embedded system
fetch/decode/execute cycle
hardware/software interrupt
interpreter/compiler
kernel
memory hierarchy
microprocessor architecture
middleware
motherboard
multicore processor
operating system
peripheral devices
scheduler
server farm
virtual machine/runtime machine