CIS 201: Computer Hardware Lab

Name:

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Lab 3.2: Identify Motherboard Components  
Estimated Completion Time: 45 minutes

Objective:

The goal of this lab is to help you identify motherboard form factors and components. After completing this lab, you will be able to:

* Identify a motherboard’s components
* Identify connectors
* Identify the form factor based on component type and placement

Reference:

* Refer to A Guide to IT Support: Chapter 4 All About Motherboards
* Use three motherboards

ACTIVITY:

1. Take a picture of three motherboards

Add pictures of each motherboard in the table below

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Motherboard 1 | Motherboard 2 | Motherboard 3 |
|  |  |  |

1. Fill in the chart for each motherboard

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Motherboard 1 | Motherboard 2 | Motherboard 3 |
| Manufacturer/Model |  |  |  |
| BIOS Manufacturer |  |  |  |
| CPU Socket |  |  |  |
| Chipset |  |  |  |
| RAM slot type |  |  |  |
| How many RAM slots |  |  |  |
| RAM channels |  |  |  |
| How many PCI slots? |  |  |  |
| How many PCIe X 1 slots? |  |  |  |
| How many PCIe X 16 slots? |  |  |  |
| How many AGP slots? |  |  |  |
| Parallel ATA (IDE) connectors? |  |  |  |
| Serial ATA (SATA) connectors? |  |  |  |
| SCSI controller? |  |  |  |
| Embedded audio, video, etc |  |  |  |
| How many power connectors? |  |  |  |
| Form factor |  |  |  |
| Describe any unusual components |  |  |  |

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What are two main differences between an ATX and microATX board?
2. How can you determine the chipset if it’s not written on the board?
3. Of the motherboards you examined, which do you think is the oldest? Why?
4. Which motherboard best supports old and new technology? Why?
5. Which motherboard seems to provide the best possibility for expansion? Why?
6. Which motherboard do you think is the most expensive? Why?

PICTURE

Add the picture of the motherboard1. Label each component.