



Fig. 1: Organization of a simple computer; the CPU is built into a single microprocessor chip

3 Language work: defining relative clauses

Look at the HELP box and then complete the sentences below with suitable relative pronouns. Give alternative options if possible. Put brackets round the relative pronouns you can leave out.

- 1 That's the computer (that) I'd like to buy.
- 2 Core 2 Duo is a new Intel processor which contains about 291 million transistors.
- 3 A webmaster is a person who designs, develops and maintains a website.
- 4 A bus is an electronic pathway which carries signals between computer devices.
- 5 Here's the DVD (that) you lent me!
- 6 Last night I met someone who works for GM as a software engineer.

HELP box

Defining relative clauses

- We can define people or things with a defining (restrictive) relative clause. We use the relative pronoun **who** to refer to a person; we can also use **that**.

*A blogger is a person **who/that** keeps a web log (blog) or publishes an online diary.*

- We use the relative pronoun **which** (or **that**) to refer to a thing, not a person.

*This is built into a single chip **which/that** executes program instructions and coordinates the activities that take place within the computer system.*

- Relative pronouns can be left out when they are the object of the relative clause.

*The main circuit board (**which/that**) you have inside your system is called the motherboard ...*