

Unit 13 The operating system

Name:

1 What do the following stand for? Choose from the drop-down menu.

- 1 GUI
- 2 OS
- 3 WIMP



Now listen to what the abbreviations and acronym stand for, and practise saying them.

2 Which elements of a GUI would you need to click on to carry out the following tasks?

- 1 To open a letter that you'd been writing in Word.
document icon ☐ program icon ☐
- 2 To launch your internet browser software.
folder icon ☐ program icon ☐
- 3 To move up and down through a window.
drop-down menu ☐ scroll bar ☐
- 4 To restart or shut down your computer.
menu bar ☐ hard drive icon ☐
- 5 To find out how much space is left on your C: drive.
program icon ☐ hard drive icon ☐

3 Complete this extract from a wiki entry about Windows Vista by choosing the correct article from the drop-down menu.

Windows Vista is (1) operating system developed by Microsoft for use on (2) personal computers. **Development** was completed on November 8, 2006; over (3) next three months it was released in stages to (4) computer manufacturers, (5) business customers, and (6) shops. On January 30, 2007, it was released worldwide to the **general public**, and was made available for purchase and download direct from Microsoft. (7) release of Windows Vista comes more than five years after (8) introduction of Windows XP.

Vista contains hundreds of new and improved features. The most significant include (9) updated GUI and visual style called Windows Aero, improved search features, new multimedia creation tools, and completely redesigned networking, audio, print, and display sub-systems. However, perhaps the greatest improvement has been to (10) **security**. Windows XP suffered from (11) **vulnerability** to viruses and **malware**, and it will be interesting to see to what extent this has been addressed in Vista.

4 Decide if these words (which appear in bold in Exercise 3) are countable or uncountable, depending on how they are used in this context.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 development | countable <input type="radio"/> | uncountable <input type="radio"/> |
| 2 public | countable <input type="radio"/> | uncountable <input type="radio"/> |
| 3 security | countable <input type="radio"/> | uncountable <input type="radio"/> |
| 4 vulnerability | countable <input type="radio"/> | uncountable <input type="radio"/> |
| 5 malware | countable <input type="radio"/> | uncountable <input type="radio"/> |