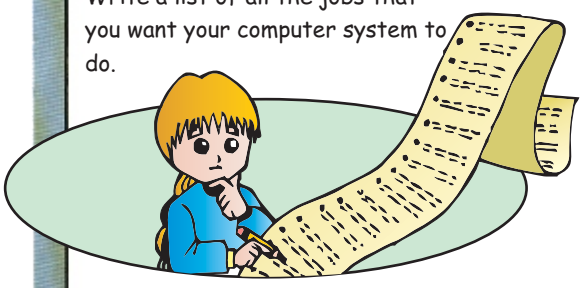
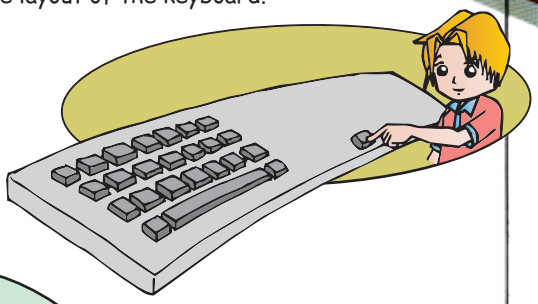
Computer Purchase

Here is a checklist of things to do and decisions to make before you choose any computer hardware or software.

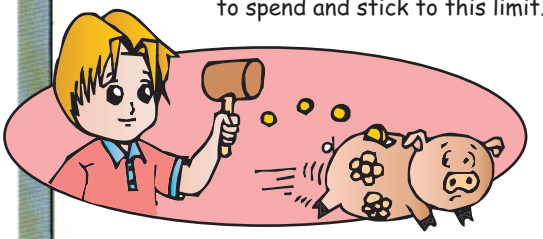
Write a list of all the jobs that you want your computer system to do.



Check the layout of the keyboard.



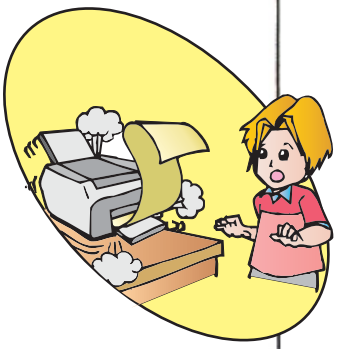
Decide how much money you can afford to spend and stick to this limit.



Do you want to use your computer to explore the Internet or send e-mail? If you do, you will need an email, modem and internet service provider in your locality.

Buy a computer with the largest hard disk you can afford, so that you have enough room to store all the programs, you may want to use.

When choosing a printer, think about its cost and speed; and its purpose, whether you want to print in color or monochrome, and the quality of the print. Ask to see samples of a printer's output.



If you want to use multimedia presentations, you will need a CD drive. Most software applications are supplied with CD-ROM as well as disks. You will also need a sound card and speakers to enjoy all the multimedia features.

Make sure you've got enough room for all the hardware you intend to buy.

Buying the computer

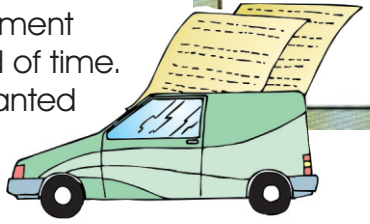
If you are buying your first computer, try to find someone who has experience with computers to help you.
Visit or telephone a variety of shops to find out their price for the computer system that you want. Look at the prices in computer magazines.
Ask the salesman to demonstrate any hardware you are interested in. For example, when a monitor is demonstrated, check if the images are sharp in all areas of the screen. You might consider buying a second-hand computer. However, watch out for damage and test each part of the system thoroughly.

Help!

Most companies that supply hardware and software offer a support service to their customers. This includes help and advice on how to get the most out of your equipment and what to do if something goes wrong.

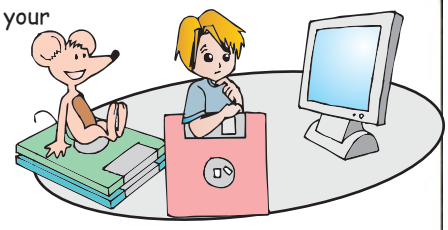
Try to buy hardware and software that come with a telephone technical support service that answers any questions and helps with problems. Many software packages come with a free online training program.

Make sure your hardware comes with a guarantee. This is a promise by the manufacturer to repair your equipment free of charge for a certain period of time. Make sure your equipment is warranted for at least a year.



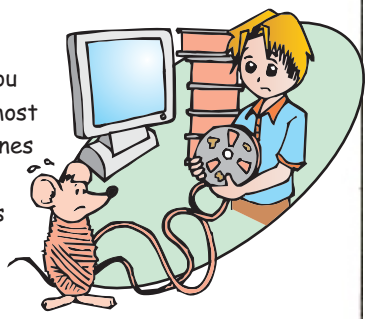
Software checklist

Is the software you want to buy compatible with your hardware?



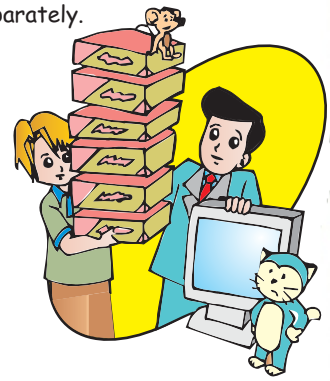
Talk to people who have used different brands of software, to see which packages they recommend. Read reviews of new software packages (and hardware) in computer magazines or on the internet.

Software packages are revised and updated. You don't always need the most recent version. Older ones are cheaper and may provide all the features you need.

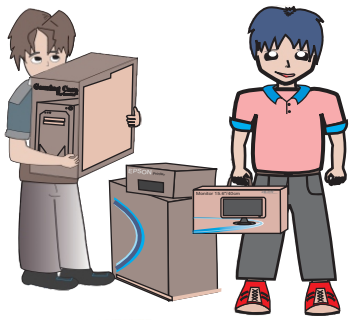


Do you want an integrated software package that combines certain features, such as word processing, database and spreadsheets? It may cost less than buying each application separately.

Some hardware manufacturers or suppliers give away software packages with their machines. Keep a look out for the best deals and bargains.



Builds that Fit



Below are the different kinds of build that you have to consider in buying or building your own personal computers. It is the price that matters.

The Budget PC

• Decent performance • Good for everyday computing • Low profile gaming

Granted, if you just need to create a few documents and check your email, you can get by on much less than a 20,000 desktop. However, if you follow a budget build you'll have a system acceptable for any role apart from running graphically intense applications -- which could also be attainable by investing in a dedicated video card in it.

The Entry Level Rig

• Good performance • Fast for everyday computing • Casual gaming

This computer would be an excellent companion for running general applications and should make quick work of most games, including the more demanding titles. Average price would cost you around 25,000 up but less than 30,000.

The Enthusiast's PC

• Excellent performance • Great Multitasker • Perfect for gaming

The Enthusiast's PC incorporates the perfect blend of both the Entry-Level Rig and Luxury System, making this the most harmonious of builds that cost you 31,000 up. The intention is to keep this system within the grasp of the average computer enthusiast, offering a fully-loaded PC minus some of the unnecessary parts like coolers, fans and fancy lights.

The Luxury System

• Workstation-like performance • Heavy multitasking • Extreme gaming

The Luxury System is a screaming-edge machine. Building such considers no price limit. Every component if thoughtfully checked and offers the most horsepower for your convenience. Every part is high end as to processor, motherboard, memory card and video card as well. Accessories are excessive for fun and thrills on power hunger games. This type would cost one at least 120,000 and up.

How Much Remain

Lesson 14

Score

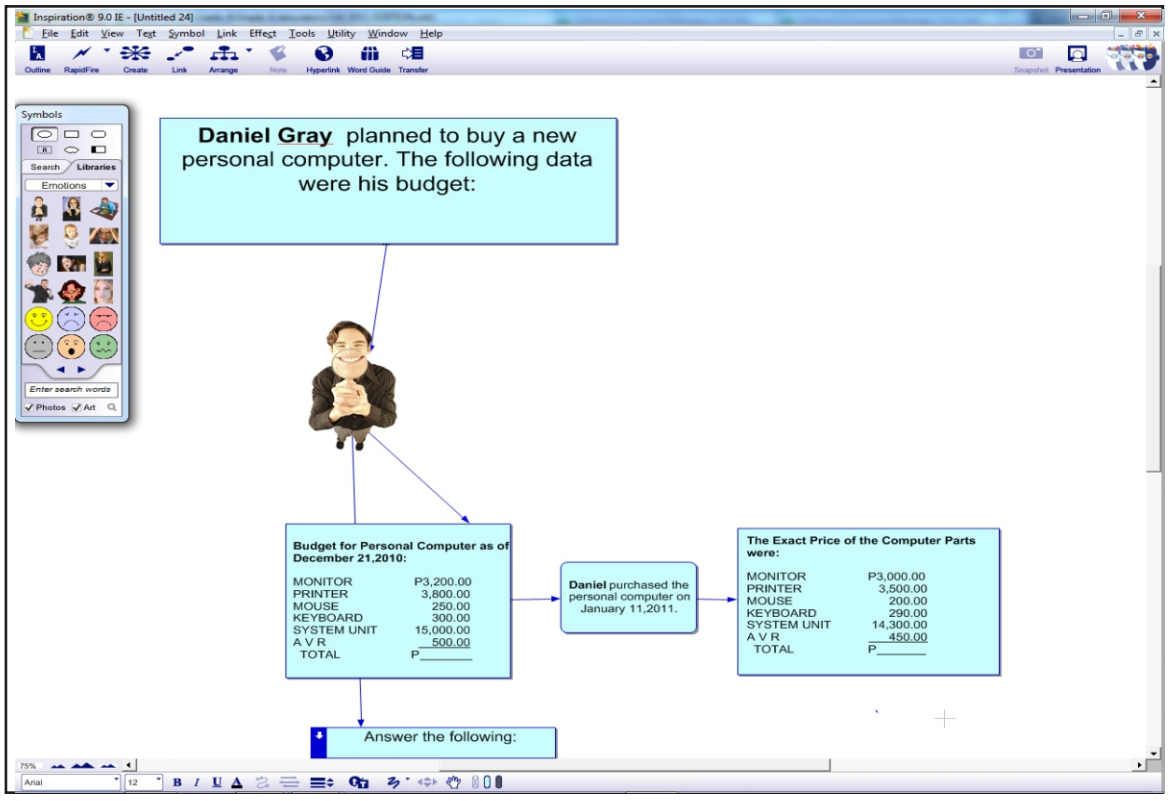
Activity 37

Directions:

1. Launch Inspiration.
2. Open and answer Lesson 14 Activity 37 **How Much Remain**.
3. Study carefully the data about planning to buy a personal computer and answer the mathematical questions that follow.

Note: Show the whole data by clicking the upper-right portion of the main topic.

Preview:



4. Save the activity as **How Much Remain**.

My Desired PC

Lesson 14

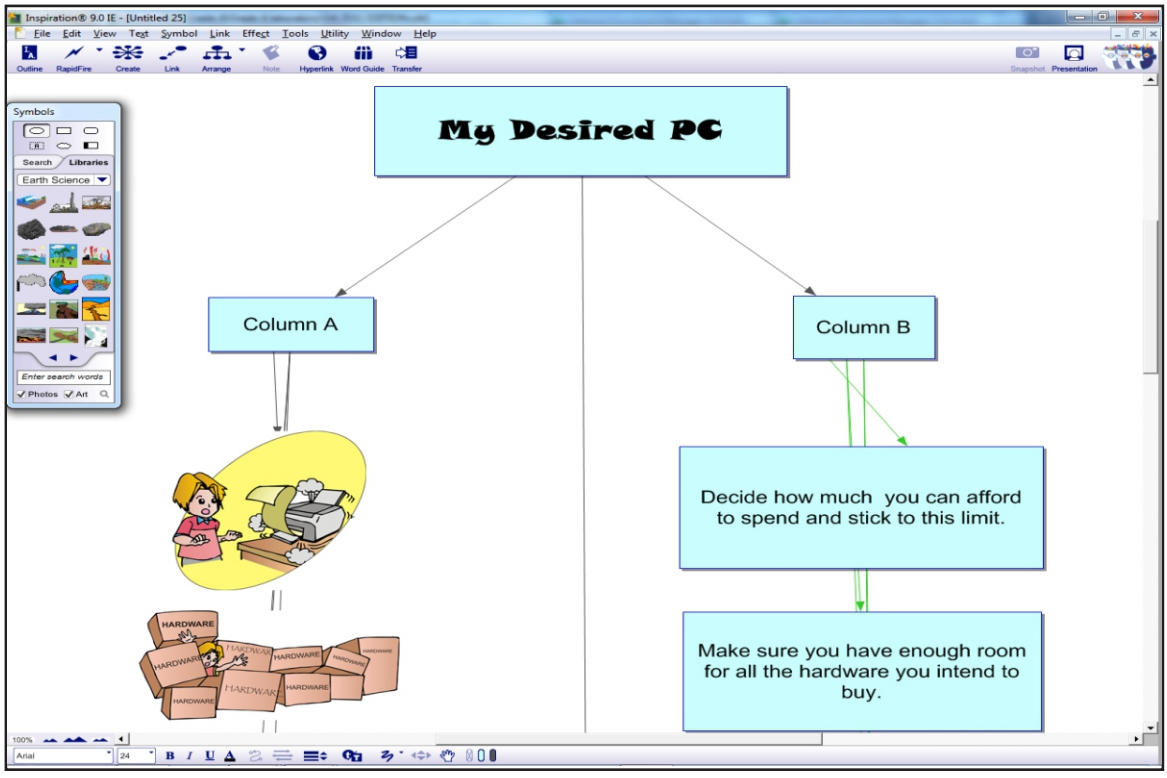
Score

Activity 38

Directions:

1. Launch Inspiration.
2. Open and answer Lesson 14 Activity 38 **My Desired PC**.
3. Link the picture from column A to its right description in column B.
4. Provide the parts of computer hardware that will complete your personal computer. Search them in the library.
5. Click the arrow in the upper-right corner of the main topic to see its subtopics.

Preview:



6. Save the activity as **My Desired PC**.

Software Checklist

Lesson 14

Score

Activity 39

Directions:

1. Based on the previous lessons, recall at least 10 software that can be installed to your desired personal computer. Draw a personal computer and write the software that can be installed in it below.

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

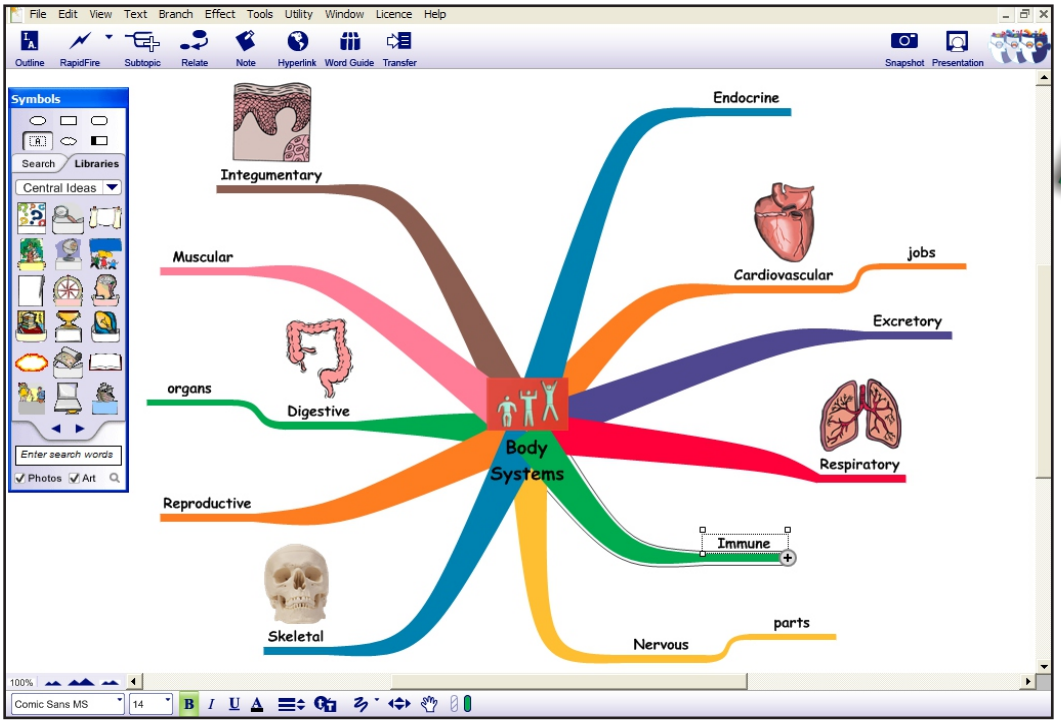
Body Systems

Take care of your body because keeping it healthy is a duty. It is the key to keep the mind strong and clear.

Directions:

1. Launch Inspiration.
2. Open the sidetrip **Body System**.
3. Research each part of the body system in Encarta Kids or Microsoft Student.
4. Key in the facts about the parts of the body system by clicking its plus signs.

Preview:



5. Save sidetrip as **Body Systems**.