**Looking at Computers: Understanding the Parts**

## Web Project 1: Portable Storage vs. Cloud Storage

Portable vs. cloud storage. If you had to choose between cloud storage and portable storage devices, you would want to research the pros and cons of each to make an informed decision. Write a short essay that compares/contrasts portable and cloud storage. Follow your instructor’s directions for proper formatting of your research.

**Suggested Websites**

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2413556,00.asp>

<http://www.cnet.com/topics/storage/best-hard-drives-and-storage/external-storage-drives/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/columnist/saltzman/2015/02/21/hard-drive-cloud-backup/23671659/>

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/computer-backup-systems/buying-guide.htm>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-best-way-to-back-up-your-computer-1425404466>

**Suggested Keywords**

best way to back up computer, best computer backup options, should I use cloud storage or portable, cloud storage options, cloud vs. portable storage

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**Web Project 2: Buying a Printer**

Imagine you would like to purchase a printer for your personal use at college. Make a chart that compares the features (e.g., portability, size, color, and function) of at least six different portable computers. What is included in the package price and what costs extra? In addition to the chart, write a short essay that describes the similarities and differences among different types printers analyzing your comparison results and finally discuss which model best meets your needs and why. Follow your instructor’s directions for proper formatting of your research.

**Suggested Websites**

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2491367,00.asp>

<http://www.mytopprinters.com/best-all-in-one-multifunction-printers/>

<http://printers.toptenreviews.com/compact/>

<http://www.cnet.com/topics/printers/best-printers/>

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2379649,00.asp>

**Suggested Keywords**

types of printers, best printer options, portable printers, highest rated printers, printer features

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**Web Project 3: 3-D Printing**

One of the most exciting innovations in printing today is the 3-D printer. These 3-D printers are used in marketing, consumer goods, medicine, and so on. Research using the Internet for more information on exactly how 3-D printers work and the most recent uses for them. Write a short paper describing how they work and their uses. Include some ideas of what you think they might be used for in the future. Follow your instructor’s directions for proper formatting of your research.

**Suggested Websites**

<http://3dprinting.com/what-is-3d-printing/>

<http://www.goodnet.org/articles/4-mindblowing-examples-3d-printers-being-used-for-good-list>

<http://www.techrepublic.com/article/3d-printing-10-companies-using-it-in-ground-breaking-ways/>

<http://www.fastcodesign.com/3049885/innovation-by-design/the-2015-innovation-by-design-awards-3-d-printing>

<http://www.pwc.com/us/en/technology-forecast/2014/3d-printing/features/future-3d-printing.html>

**Suggested Keywords**

3-d printing, what are 3-d printers used for, innovative uses for 3-d printers, future uses 3-d printers, why use 3-d printers

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**Web Project 4: Avoid Eyestrain**

Conduct an Internet search on the various options available to reduce eyestrain and the adverse effect on sleep patterns. Write a review of four different options available listing the pros and cons of each, and indicate which one you would find the most beneficial. Follow your instructor’s directions for proper formatting of your research.

**Suggested Websites**

<http://www.blackl.com/black-google.php>

<http://www.allaboutvision.com/cvs/irritated.htm>

<http://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/blue-light-has-a-dark-side>

<http://gadgets.ndtv.com/laptops/features/how-to-prevent-eye-strain-when-using-a-computer-575879>

<http://www.digitaltrends.com/mobile/does-your-phone-damage-your-eyes-an-experts-advice/>

<http://www.fastcompany.com/3042717/sleep-week/8-ways-to-use-your-gadgets-at-night-and-still-get-a-good-nights-sleep>

**Suggested Keywords**

reduce computer eyestrain, blue light and sleep patterns, eyestrain using computers, eyestrain using computers, cell phone eye strain, how to use less blue light