

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## Computer Shopping Project

### What to do...

For this project you will utilize your new knowledge of computer terms, hardware, and Internet explorer to simulate buying a computer online. You have an imaginary budget of **\$1,000** to purchase an entire working computer system. You must complete the following tasks to get full credit for this assignment.

1. Visit a vendor's web site to select your computer system and print out the page your desired system appears on.
2. Complete the form on the back of this page detailing the specifications of your system.
3. Write one paragraph on the back of this page on why you selected the computer you did.

### Where to go...

The following web sites offer many computers that you may use for this assignment:

Apple	<a href="http://www.apple.com">http://www.apple.com</a>
Dell	<a href="http://www.dell.com">http://www.dell.com</a>
Gateway	<a href="http://www.gateway.com">http://www.gateway.com</a>
Alien Wares	<a href="http://www.alienware.com">http://www.alienware.com</a>
E Machine	<a href="http://www.emachines.com">http://www.emachines.com</a>
IBM	<a href="http://www.ibm.com">http://www.ibm.com</a>
Sony	<a href="http://www.sony.com">http://www.sony.com</a>
HP	<a href="http://www.hp.com">http://www.hp.com</a>

### What to consider...

You must consider what you want the machine for. If you simply want to surf the Internet and check e-mail you can go for a less expensive, less powerful machine. However, if you were looking for a gaming machine you would need a machine with a powerful graphics card and a faster processor (CPU). First, consider what the machine will be used for then proceed with shopping. Here are the major categories to consider...

Notebook or Desktop - If you need to take your computer with you constantly, a notebook would be the best computer for you. But remember that a notebook costs more than a desktop, so make sure portability is the most important issue for you.

Processor Speed – How fast of a computer do you want?

Hard Drive Size – How much storage space do you need for the files and applications?

Video Card – Will you be running graphics intensive programs like games?

Sound Card – Are you interested in audio applications?

Monitors – How much viewable space do you want? High or low resolution?

CD-ROM or DVD – Do you want to burn CD's? Do you want to burn DVD's? and do you want to watch DVDs?

RAM – Will you be running several applications at once? How fast do you want your computer to run programs? Will you be using a photo editing program?

Application Software – What kind of software do you want on your computer? Most computers don't come with Microsoft Office software, you will have to upgrade your software selection to add it.

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### Computer Specifications:

<b>Computer Brand and Model (Gateway, Dell, HP, etc.)</b>	
<b>Processor and Speed (Celeron, Pentium, AMD, etc)</b>	
<b>Operating System</b>	
<b>Memory(RAM)</b>	
<b>Hard Drive Capacity/size</b>	
<b>CD-ROM and/or DVD Drive (Optical Drive - Gateway)</b>	
<b>Floppy Drive</b>	
<b>Keyboard</b>	
<b>Mouse</b>	
<b>Application Software (Bundle) Productivity Software</b>	
<b>Monitor/Screen Type and Size (Flat screen or standard)</b>	
<b>Video Card (Graphics)</b>	
<b>Security/AntiVirus Software</b>	
<b>Sound Card (Sound System) and Speakers System</b>	
<b>Modem</b>	
<b>Network Adapter/Interface/Card</b>	
<b>Warranty Period</b>	
<b>Price</b>	

**\*\*\*** In a short paragraph below, please explain to me why you selected the computer system you did. What were your major considerations? What do you intend to use the computer for? Were you happy with the vendor's web site? What do you like about your computer?