

PART ONE :READING AND INTERPRETING

A) COMPREHENSION

Purchasing a computer can be a very huge and stressful decision. Because computers are very expensive, looking at all the options is a good idea. Make sure that the computer you purchase is right for you and will last you a long period of time. There are several different ways to go about purchasing a computer and several things to watch for when shopping around.

The first decision that you must make is if you will buy new or used. Obviously, a used computer will be less expensive, but the warranty will be used also. If you are looking for a reliable computer where its use will be critical you should stay away from used computers. If the computer is for enjoyment only, buying used can be a good option for you.

If you decide to buy a used computer, a good place to start your search is in the classified advertisements. Your local newspaper will usually have several computers for sale. Otherwise, get on the Internet and search the classifieds. The only downfall with this is that the computer that you find may be a great distance away. This is hard because you have to place your trust in the hands of the person that is selling the computer.

Buying new is the easiest and most expensive choice. When buying new, you need to watch for several things and be aware of the things they may try to throw on you. To start off, you should get price quotes from all the major computer retailers. They are usually very knowledgeable and can pick out the type of computer that will work best for you.

Another thing that you want to look into is the warranties. Computers are changing rapidly and you can just about guarantee that by the time you have hooked your computer up, they have come out with a newer version. Therefore, you want to make sure that you have a good warranty that stands behind the computer that you purchase. If you decide that you want to upgrade yours with one that is newer, it can be done. Companies should stand behind their products and the guarantee as well.

One other point that you want to research when purchasing a new computer is the help factor. Larger computer companies have phone numbers that you can call with questions on your computer. Some companies only offer this service for the first few months, others only offer it at a certain time of day or week. You should make sure that the help line is available to you whenever you need it. You should also make sure that you won't be billed for asking for help, some companies charge you for the help they give you.

Overall, purchasing a computer can be an easy task if you know what you want and how you will use it. You can solve a lot of problems by researching the companies and products that they sell. If you feel comfortable with the company and the service that you receive, it will make buying a computer a lot less stressful on you.

1. Are these sentences true or false according to the text ?

- a- People can be worried when they want to buy a computer.
- b- Buying a new or used computer depends on your needs.
- c- There is a real revolution in the development of computers.

2. Complete these sentences according to the text.

- a- Buying a computer can be easy when.....
- b- Buying a computer can be difficult when.....

3. Answer these questions according to the text.

- a- List the points you have to consider when you want to buy a computer.
- b- Do you think this text is addressed to Algerians ? Justify your answer.

4. Who or what do the underlined words refer to in the text ?

- a- § 2 : its
- b- § 3 : you
- c- § 4 : they

5. Lexis : Find in the text two pairs of equivalents which mean :

- a- to obtain something by giving money
- b- a promise to repair or replace a product if not good

B) TEXT EXPLORATION

1. Give the correct form of the verbs between brackets

- a- If she (to want) to buy a computer, she'll have several choices.
- b- (to sell) a used computer may be a good opportunity to get money so as to buy a new one.

2. Add four (04) more words / equivalents to this one :

Etiquette =

3. Rewrite the second sentence so as to mean the same as the first one given.

- a- « Can I meet MR Ali please, » she asked.
- b- She

a- « Sorry, but MR Ali is not here, » the secretary answered.

b- The secretary

4. Spot and correct the four (04) spelling mistakes in the following paragraph.

Technologie is the branch of knowledge dealing with scientifique and industriale methods as well as their practical use in everyday life. In other words, it is the practical side of sience.

PART TWO : WRITTEN EXPRESSION

Choose one topic and write a paragraph of about 12 lines

Topic 1 : Summarize the text. Don't copy the text but paraphrase the essential ideas using your own words as far as possible.

Topic 2 : Do you agree with those who say that no field of interest has ever seen such a big development as that of computers. Give your point of view using clear arguments.