**Your Task:**

**Find the best online deal to purchase a computer. I am giving you an amount of $1,500.00 to purchase it. Think of what your needs might be use the following two options as a guide:**

1. a typical “business laptop” to be used by a college/university student, who will need basic web browsing, word processing and spreadsheet applications.

2) a high powered desktop or tower PC to be used for 3D design, gaming or video and audio recording and editing software.

**THERE ARE 3 PARTS –** Complete the project using this template. Type all your answers in spaces provided. The table will expand as necessary to accommodate your answers.

**PART 1\_20 POINTS: Read the article:** ["9 KeyThings to Know Before You Buy a New Computer"](http://www.cheatsheet.com/technology/9-tips-for-picking-your-machine-computer-shopping-cheat-sheet.html/?a=viewall) . **Answer the questions in the space provided below.**

*\*If you cannot find an answer to a question in the article, go to* ***Google Search*** *and type the question in the search window.*

|  |
| --- |
| **“9 Things to Know Before You Buy a Computer Questions”** |
| 1. List two reasons why “buying a computer is no easy task”? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What is the main differences between the two types of computers? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What is a “processor”? |
| Answer: |
| 1. How are processor size and speed measured? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What is Random Access Memory (RAM)? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What is RAM function in a computer? |
| Answer: |
| 1. How is RAM measured? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** Why is RAM called temporary memory? |
| Answer: |
| 1. Hard Drives are considered permanent storage where all applications and files are stored. There are two types of Hard Drives. List them and explain the difference between the two. |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** If you use a lot of Web Applications, do you need a larger Hard Drive? Explain your answer. |
| Answer: |
| 1. Which one should you consider for your computer? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What are peripherals? |
| Answer: |
| 1. List all the peripherals (6) that are discussed in the article. |
| Answer: |
| 1. What are Mac OS, Windows, and Linux? |
| Answer: |
| 1. Which one should you consider and why? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** How do you measure screen size? What is the best computer screen size for me? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** How do you measure screen resolution? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** What is the meaning of integrated graphics? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** What is meant by dedicated graphics? |
| Answer: |
| 1. **Google:** integrated graphics or dedicated graphics for gaming? Why? |
| Answer: |
| 1. What is the most important thing to consider when buying a computer? |
| Answer: |
| 1. Why should you wait for price reductions (Sale)? |
| Answer: |
| 1. At the end of the article it states “One Last Tidbit.” What is it? |
| Answer: |

**PART 2\_30 POINTS:** Find 3 separate price quotes from online suppliers like Staples, BestBuy, HP.com, Dell.com, etc. Create a neat table to compare the different systems based on the following criteria

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **System A** | **System B** | **System C** |
| **Online Supplier** |  |  |  |
| **Brand Name** |  |  |  |
| **Model Number** |  |  |  |
| **Model Name** |  |  |  |
| **Link to Web Page** |  |  |  |
| **Cost of Item** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Extended Service Contract** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Shipping/Delivery** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Sales Tax @7%** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Total Cost** | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  |  |  |
| **CPU Type & Speed** |  |  |  |
| **RAM Memory** |  |  |  |
| **Hard Drive Size** |  |  |  |
| **Monitor/Screen Size** |  |  |  |
| **Monitor/Screen Resolution** |  |  |  |
| **Operating System** |  |  |  |
| **Software included** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**PART 3\_20 POINTS:** After completing the Table, type at least 250 words (12 size font, double spaced) comparing the three systems and explaining why you would select one of the systems over the others. Base your reasoning on the computer system’s overall components and not solely on price. Type your essay below, check for errors, print the entire document, and hand in.

***\*Be sure to include an introduction, body, comparing components of the three computers, and conclusion.***