A computer is a complex device of many different components.	CONSIST
This hardware can be divided into four groups to the computer's	CORRESPOND
four basic functions: the computer (1) takes in data, (2) processes the data according to	
the in the programs, (3) shows the results of this processing to the user, and (4) stores these results in its memory.	INSTRUCT
processing to the user, and (4) stores these results in its memory.	
Functions and hardware groups	FOLUD
1 Input. The needed to feed data into the computer (e.g. keyboard,	EQUIP
mouse).	
2 Processing. The equipment which follows the orders of programs to transform the	
data in some way. The most important element is the called	CHIP
the 'central processing unit (CPU)'.	CIII
the central processing unit (Cr o).	
3 Output. The equipment which displays the results of the computer's work (e.g.	
, screen).	PRINT
4 The hardware which functions as the computer's	STORE
memory (e.g. hard drive).	
This holds data so that it can be used again in the future. All the different pieces of	
hardware are through a communication network called	LINK
hardware are through a communication network called a 'bus'. The centre of is the computer's main circuit	COMMUNICATE
board, known as the 'motherboard', under the control of the CPU.	
The CPU is therefore the most vital element of a computer's hardware with a double	
function. It processes the data which the user feeds into the computer. At the same	0000
time, it also controls the of all the other pieces of hardware so that the computer functions as a single unified system. The speed of a	OPERATE
nardware so that the computer functions as a single unified system. The speed of a	MEAGUDE
CPU, called its 'clock speed', is in hertz, cycles per second,	MEASURE
with each cycle one operation. A CPU with a clock speed of 4	REPRESENT
GHz (gigahertz) can perform 4 billion operations every second.	

Adapted activity.

Source: 'The computer system', Career Paths in Technology, S. Bolognini, B. C. Barber, K. O'Malley, Pearson, 2022.

