

COMPUTER BASICS: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS

Visit the following website, <http://www.gcflearnfree.org/computerbasics>, and read through the following introductory lessons:

- LESSON 1: What is a Computer?*
LESSON 2: Understanding Operating Systems
LESSON 3: Understanding Applications
LESSON 4: Understanding the Cloud

Once you have read through each of the lessons, answer each of the following questions in a Word document. Save the file as **2_Introduction_to_Computers.docx** in your UNIT 1 folder.



1. What is a **computer**?
2. Name and describe the two things all computers have in common.
3. Describe each of the following types of computers:
 - (a) Desktop
 - (b) Servers
 - (c) Tablets
 - (d) Mobile Phones
 - (e) TVs
4. What is an **operating system**? Describe some of the things an operating system does.
5. What is a **GUI**?
6. Other than Microsoft Windows, what are some other common operating systems that are used in computers? Be sure to describe in some detail at least two (2) other operating systems.
7. What is the difference between **open source** software and **proprietary software**?
8. How are operating systems for mobile devices different than those made for desktop or laptop computers?
9. What is an **application**?
10. Name and describe three (3) types of software applications.
11. What is a filename extension? What purpose does a filename extension serve?
12. What is **cloud computing**?

13. Identify and describe two (2) advantages of using the cloud?
14. What is a **web app** and how is it different than regular applications?