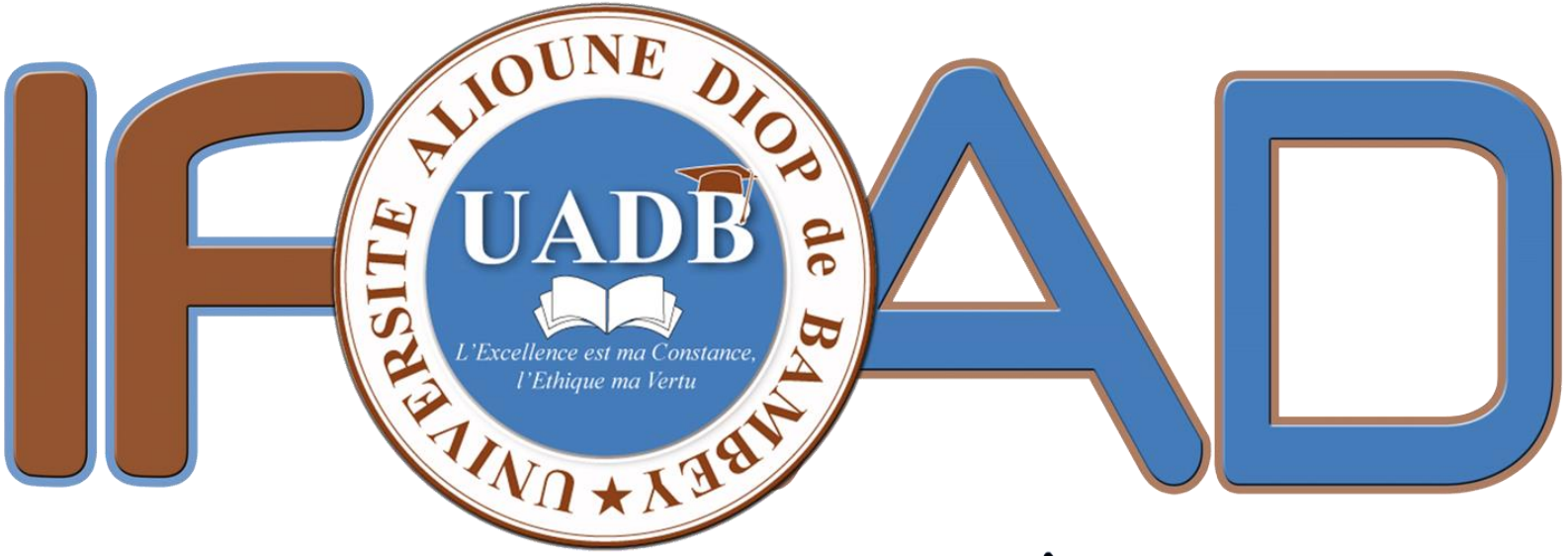


ONLINE ENGLISH COURSES ESP SRT/D2A/SID

LICENCE 2

Presentation of trainers

- **Presenter**

Evelyne Rose FAYE

- **Course designers**

Evelyne Rose FAYE

- **CHAPTER 5 : Reading Software and Hardware**
- **Inside the computer**

Description of the course

- The English course aims at preparing students to professional life through acquisition of knowledge and skills that allow them to communicate.
- For that purpose, the course is based on providing students with skills which allow them to use general English and ESP **(English for Specific Purposes)**.

Prerequisites and objectives

- **Prerequisites**

  Students should have completed L1 English course

- **Objectives**

  This course aims at providing students with the necessary skills to express themselves in English, through conversations, opinions and business letters,

  ESP courses will allow students to understand and use the appropriate lexical items and expressions related to their fields of study.

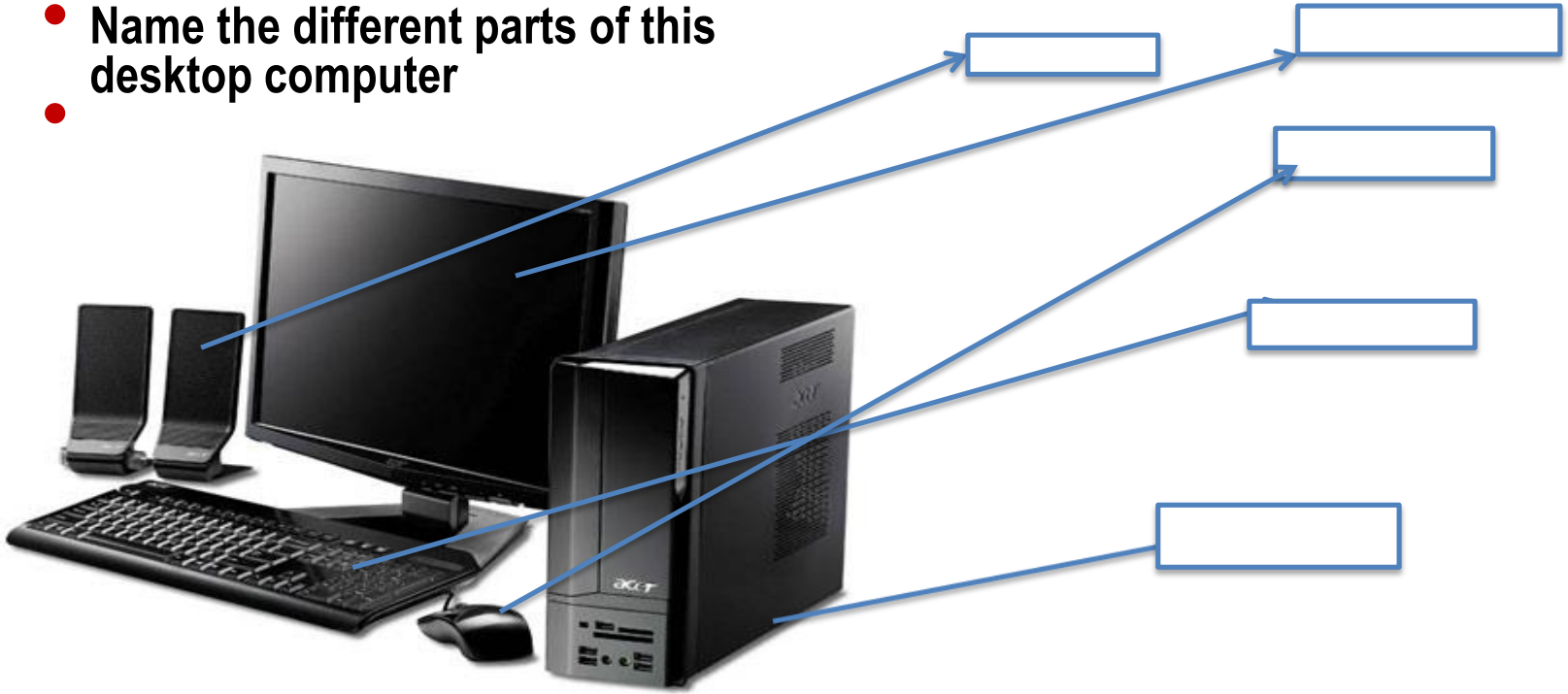
Specific Objectives:

by the end of this course students should be able to be

- Familiarized with the different parts of a computer and their terminologies in English.
- know the difference between hardware and software and get an insight of related vocabularies.
- express their opinions through speaking and writing activities.

I. Pre Reading

- Name the different parts of this desktop computer



. II. Reading Comprehension: text study: Hardware & Software

- Hardware refers to the physical elements of a computer. This is also sometime called the machinery or the equipment of the computer. Examples of hardware in a computer are the keyboard, the monitor, the mouse and the processing unit. However, most of a computer's hardware cannot be seen; in other words, it is not an external element of the computer, but rather an internal one, surrounded by the computer's casing (tower). A computer's hardware is comprised of many different parts, but perhaps the most important of these is the motherboard. The motherboard is made up of even more parts that power and control the computer.
- In contrast to software, hardware is a physical entity. Software implements algorithms (problem solutions) that allow the computer to complete much more complex tasks. Software, commonly known as programs, consists of all the electronic instructions that tell the hardware how to perform a task. Software is the electronic instructions that tell the computer to perform a task. Practical computer systems divide software systems into two major classes:

- **System software:** Helps run computer hardware and computer system itself. System software includes operating systems, device drivers, diagnostic tools and more. System software is almost always pre-installed on your computer.
- **Application software:** Allows users to accomplish one or more tasks. Includes word processing, web browsing and almost any other task for which you might install software. (Some application software is pre-installed on most computer systems.)
- Hardware and software are interconnected, without software; the hardware of a computer would have no function. However, without the creation of hardware to perform tasks directed by software via the central processing unit, software would be useless.

EXERCISES

- According to the text what is the main difference between software and hardware?
- _____
- _____

Find in the indicated paragraphs synonyms of:

- a.Executes (carries out):_____ (paragraph 2)
- A piece of equipment used for a particular purpose: _____ (par 2)
- “Carte mére”:_____ (par 1)

Read the text and name the different elements of the hardware

INTERNAL ELEMENTS	EXTERNAL ELEMENTS
a. b.	c.
	d.
	e.
	f.

Are the following, application software or system software? Tick the correct box

	Application software	System software
Windows 7		
office 2012		
Google chrome		
Android		

III. LISTENING (video): Inside the computer

Watch the video about computer parts and fill in the gaps in the transcript below

store/ motherboard/ magnetic platter/ heat/ wireless/ hard drive/drives/store/components/upgrade/computer/ heat/carries out/files /storage/slots/supply/processor

- You may already know that there are lots of important parts inside the desktop (1)_____ but what exactly do they do? In this video we are going to take a look inside to show you the various components that make a computer work.
- Every computer has a large circuit board called a (2) _____ this contains some of the most important parts of your computer such as the CPU also called the central processing unit or (3)_____. The CPU is sometimes called the brain of the computer because it processes information and (4)_____ _____ _____ commands. Since it tends to get hot it is covered by a piece of metal called the (5)_____sink which draws the heat away from the processor.
- The motherboard also contains your computer's RAM or Random Access Memory. This is the short term memory that your computer uses whenever it is performing calculations. However you can't (6)_____ your (7)_____ there because the RAM is cleared when you turn off the computer. For long term (8)_____ the computer uses a (9)_____ _____which keeps all the data even when the computer is turned off. Most hard drives use a (10)_____ (11)_____ to store data but many newer computers have solid state(12) _____ which are faster and more durable but also more expensive.
- If you want to(13) _____ your computer you can add expansion cards to the motherboard expansion (14)_____. You can add a video card to have better graphics performance or you can add a (15)_____card to connect your wireless home networks. Of course, your computer's (16)_____ need electricity to run. The power (17)_____ unit is designed to take the power from the wall outlet and send it to all the different components that need power. A desktop computer is a pretty complex machine but now that you've seen what's going on inside, it should be a little less mysterious.

- **Use a dictionary to find out about the definitions of the words you have found.**

IV. WRITING AND SPEAKING

1. WRITING: An operating system is said to be the most important software that runs a computer. Now Research one of the following operating systems (Windows 7, Mac O, Android, IOS, Linux) and write a short review. Present their advantages and limits. Write about 150 to 200 words

2. **SPEAKING: DISCUSSION**

- a. What operating systems have you tried so far? Which do you like best? Why?

b. If you were a computer scientist what applications would you develop and why?

Note: for more about operating system, students can refer to the supplemental text untitled: 'operating system' attached to this lesson.