Electronics Online Challenge Sponsored by Texas Instruments

By: Team 3050B

As a team we decided to choose my dad's old custom built pc as our object because it my dad wanted me to deconstruct his old pc. Also I was thinking of making my own pc so why not start here by taking this old pc apart and learning about the parts necessary to operate a pc, and what each individual part does.





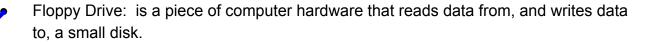
Motherboard: The computer's main circuit board. It's a thin plate that holds the CPU, memory, connectors for the hard drive and optical drives, expansion cards to control the video and audio, and connections to your computer's ports. The motherboard connects directly or indirectly to every part of the computer CPU: It is sometimes called the brain of the computer, and its job is to carry out commands. Whenever you press a key, click the mouse, or start an application, you're sending instructions to the CPU. Over the CPU which is a Intel Pentium 4 there is a fan over it which ventilate the heat generated from the components, and actively cools the processor

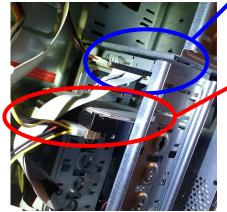
Video Card: is responsible for what you see on the monitor **Power Supply Unit**: The power supply unit in a computer converts the power from the wall outlet to the type of power needed by the computer. It sends power through cables to the motherboard and other components.

Network Card: allows your computer to communicate over a network and access the Internet. It can either connect with an Ethernet cable or through a wireless connection.



Optical Disc Drive: is a disk drive that uses laser light or electromagnetic waves within or near the visible light spectrum as part of the process of reading or writing data to or from optical discs.





Hard Drive: is a data storage device that uses magnetic storage to store and retrieve digital information using one or more rigid rapidly rotating disks coated with magnetic material.

Conclusion

Throughout this process I have learned about the parts of a computer and their functionality. Unfortunately I couldn't locate any Texas Instrument's parts in any of the components. What really surprised me is that, while I was doing research I found out that the cpu is probably the most expensive component of a computer and yet it's such a small piece of the entire computer system. Something that disappointed me was that there was no gpu in the computer, which I really wanted to research about. So that I could find the best gpu out there for the best price when I build my own computer. Overall is was a really great experience and first look into making my own pc.