

# personal english



## Semantic Field #26

# Computers



CPU



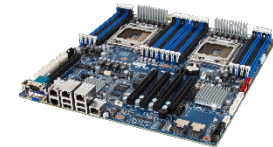
GPU



RAM



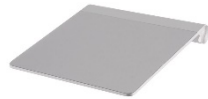
SSD



Motherboard



Mouse



Trackpad



Keyboard



Webcam



Speakers

A **computer** is a device that can automatically carry out a set of arithmetic or logical operations – hence its name. The ability of computers to follow sequences of operations (**programs**) enable them to perform a range of tasks. A computer consists of at least one processing element, usually a **Central Processing Unit (CPU)**, and some form of memory; the processing element carries out arithmetic and logical operations. A **Graphics Processing Unit (GPU)** is an electronic circuit designed to alter memory to accelerate the creation of images in a frame buffer intended for output to a display device. In a PC, a GPU can be present on a video card or can be embedded on the motherboard or on the CPU die. **Random-Access Memory (RAM)** is a form of computer data storage which stores frequently used program instructions to increase the general speed of a system. A RAM device allows data items to be read or written in almost the same amount of time, regardless of the physical location of data inside the memory. A **Solid-State Drive (SSD)** is a storage device using integrated circuit assemblies as memory to store data persistently; it lacks moving mechanical components. This distinguishes it from traditional electromechanical magnetic disks such as **Hard Disk Drives (HDDs)**, which contain spinning disks and movable heads. A **motherboard** is the main **Printed Circuit Board (PCB)** enabling communication between many of the crucial electronic components of a system. **USB (Universal Serial Bus)** is an industry standard that defines cables, connectors and communications protocols for connection between computers and devices. **Peripheral devices** include **input devices** (keyboards, mice, trackpads, webcams), **output devices** (monitor screens, printers, speakers), and **input/output devices** that perform both functions (e.g. the touchscreen).