The Computer System Graphic Organizer

Hardware

Definition: the physical equipment of the computer system

I

Input Devices

What they do: put information **into** the computer
Examples: keyboard, mouse, scanner, microphone

P

Processing Device

What it does: **processes** the information that has been entered into the computer
Example: Central Processing Unit

O

Output Devices

What they do: send information **out** of the computer
Examples: monitor, speakers, printer

S

Storage Devices

What they do: **store** information to be used later
Examples: floppy disk, hard drive, CD ROM, DVD

Software

Definition: the programs of the computer system; the instructions that tell the hardware what to do

System Software

What it does: controls the operation of the computer system

Examples: Windows, MAC, Linux

Application Software

What it does: allows the user to perform a specific task

Word Processing Software

Used for: creating text documents

Database Software

Used for: organizing information, like in a filing cabinet

Spreadsheet Software

Used for: organizing information and performing calculations