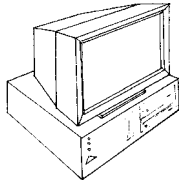


Name: _____



Cranky Computers

A lot of people own a computer or they are saving money to buy one. Do you have a computer at home or at school? If you use one, does it sometimes *CRASH* !

Some people are scared of computers because they don't know how to fix them when the computer gets cranky and crashes. Then they have to call in an expert to fix it for them. Some people are very clever and they read the manuals carefully and are able to fix the problem themselves. Children are usually not afraid to use a computer because they don't have computer-fear.

Not so long ago computers were called 'Mainframes'. These mainframes took up enormous amounts of space. A whole classroom could be filled just with the components of one computer. These days computers are small enough to fit on a desk or even on your lap if you have a laptop.

Computers are not really cranky or naughty, whatever comes out of a computer has been programmed in there by a person who is a computer programmer or by another person who has installed certain programs. A computer is a wonderful tool to help you learn but remember to keep up your writing with the good, old fashion pen and paper because one day your computer may crash and you will have to throw your brain into gear instead of the computer's.

What do you know about computers? Are you familiar with the expressions: keyboard, monitor, mouse, software, hardware, CD-rom, USB etc.

Task 1:

Write a short essay (story) about computers. Try to use some or all of the terminologies written above. Research books from the school library, public library or your own for information. Maybe you can find some computer magazines to help you.

Task 2:

Spruce up your work with some colour drawings or be creative by gluing computer pictures or related items on your work. Have fun and don't *CRASH* !