# Unit 1 — Welcome to English for IT



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**app (Application)**

software optimized to perform a specific task such as word processing, accounting, or web browsing

"Examples of popular applications include Microsoft Word, Adobe Photoshop, and Mozilla Firefox."

**Component**

any device internal to a computer, such as a hard disk drive, a usb port, or a motherboard

"A hardware geek is constantly upgrading components in his computer to achieve more performance."

**Computer**

an electronic device which stores and processes information

"A computer needs to be replaced or upgraded regularly or it will become obsolete."

**Data**

literally meaning 'that which is given', this term refers to raw information of any kind

"The network administrator was fired when he lost all the company data by accidentally formatting the wrong hard disk drive array."

**Database**

an organized, electronic collection of information, optimized for fast access, and typically consisting of rows, columns, indexes, and keys

"The international company stored their customer information in a central database in Brussels."

**Hardware**

physical items which make up a computer system, including: monitors, keyboards, hard drives, and RAM

"Hardware today has become such a commodity that it's often more expensive to repair it than to replace it."

**Internet**

the largest known network, connecting millions of computers around the world

"Some people refer to the Internet as an information superhighway."

**Network**

a connected group of computers, capable of sharing resources with each other

"The company network consisted of 3 servers, 95 workstations, and 10 printers."

**Peripheral**

an external device or "accessory" which extends the functionality of computer, such as a printer, monitor, microphone, or game controller

"The woman hated the look of all the tangled wires behind her desk, which were caused by so many peripherals."

**Software**

an organized set of computer instructions, such as applications (apps), operating systems (OS), or games

"The geek purchased new software for his computer almost every weekend."