[Handwritten notes:]

ON GOOGLE DOCS

① Write a 1 paragraph summary telling me what this article is about?

② Write a 1 paragraph conclusion. What do you think? Agree? Disagree?

③ Why is it important to look at the processor, system memory, storage and graphics before buying your next computer? What are the best options for each of these systems in a computer?

Thin is in

The wild, wonderful world of Windows

by MARC SALTZMAN

How long has it been since you last shopped for a new PC? You'll be blown away by how much they have changed. Today's Windows 10–powered devices are super thin and light, yet powerful and with a long-lasting battery. In other words, there are no trade-offs.

Not only do you have a huge selection of computers to choose from—with many different brands and prices to suit your needs and budget—but there are exciting new ways to interact with your content. In addition to a keyboard and trackpad (or mouse), there are touch screens for your fingertips, stylus pens, integrated cameras (Windows Hello) and using your voice, via your Cortana personal assistant.

As you can see, today's modern PCs are leaps and bounds ahead of what came before them. Here are a few (very subjective) thoughts for those looking to pick up a new machine.

Processor: This is the engine that drives your computer's performance. At a minimum, look at an Intel Core i5 central processing unit (CPU), as it offers enough power to future-proof your investment, but a Core i7 or Core i9 is more ideal for computer gamers, video editors and so on.

System memory: Also known as RAM, this kind of memory stores temporary data that your computer needs to perform tasks in the short term. The more memory your PC has, the more tasks it can handle at the same time. Eight gigabytes (GB) of memory is a good place to start, but 16 GB and up is better for gamers.

Storage: Consider a solid state drive (SSD) as opposed to a hard disk drive (HDD). Why? SSDs are faster, smaller and lighter, and since there are no moving parts (compared to a spinning hard drive), they're less prone to damage and better for battery performance (super important for laptops).

Graphics: Finally, your graphics processing unit (GPU) creates everything you see on your screen, and most laptops come with a built-in, integrated GPU. Yet, for the best graphics performance and smoothest visuals, look for computers with a dedicated (stand-alone) GPU.

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