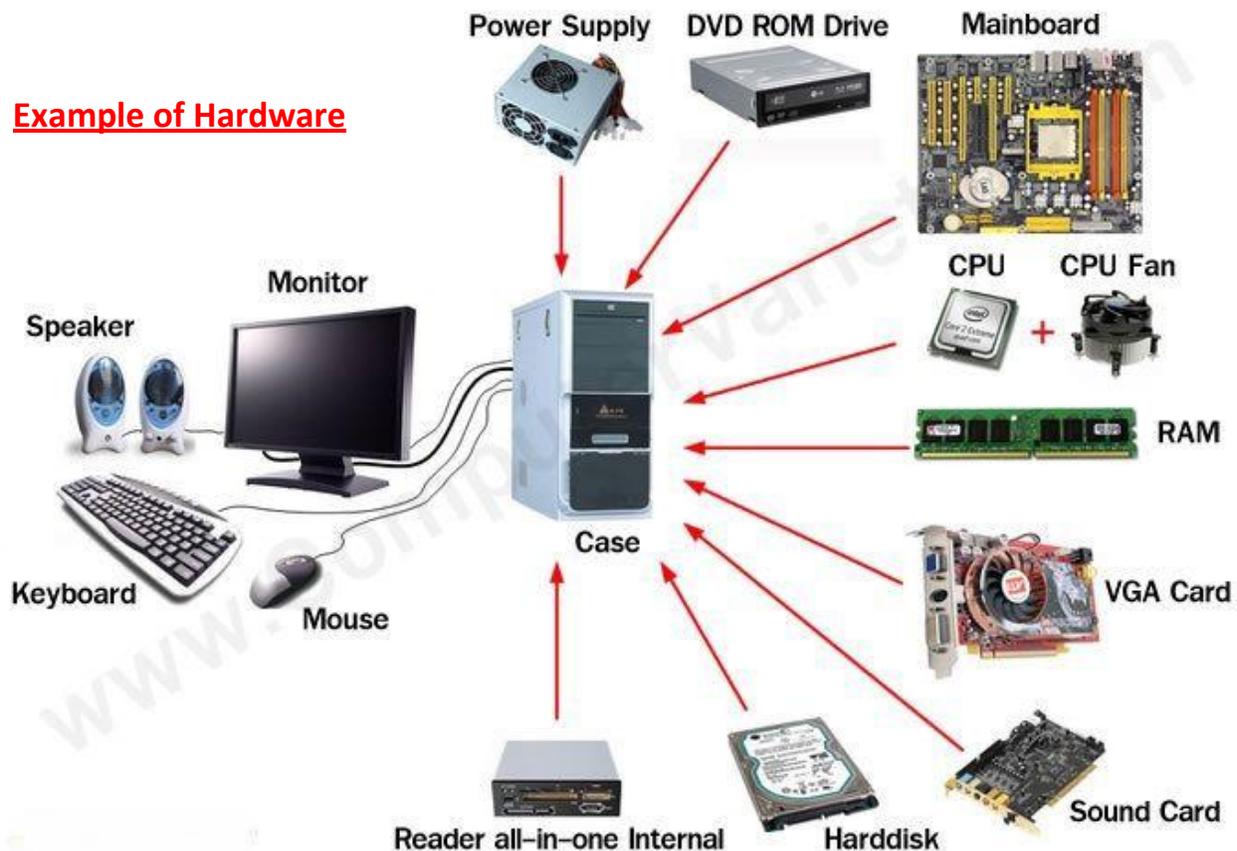# Types of Software

A Computer is made up of TWO parts : Hardware and Software
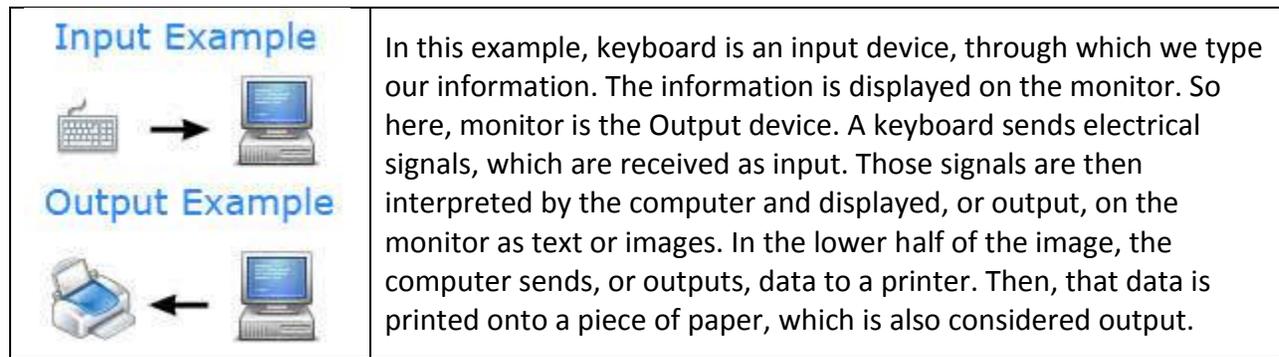
## Hardware:

**Hardware** refers to the physical elements of a computer. Those parts of the Computer which we can touch and feel. **Examples** of **hardware** in a computer are the keyboard, the monitor, the mouse and the central processing unit. Computer **hardware** includes all the physical parts of a computer, such as the case, central processing unit (CPU), monitor, mouse, keyboard, computer data storage, graphics card, sound card, speakers and motherboard. **Hardware**, provide support for major functions such as input, processing (internal storage, computation and control), output, secondary storage (for data and programs), and communication.



## Input and Output Devices:

Input/output devices (known as I/O devices) provides the means of communication between the computer and its user. An **input device** sends information to a computer system for processing, and an **output device** responds or displays the results of that processing. **Input devices** only allow for **input** of data to a computer and **output devices** only receive the **output** of data from another **device.**

| | In this example, keyboard is an input device, through which we type our information. The information is displayed on the monitor. So here, monitor is the Output device. A keyboard sends electrical signals, which are received as input. Those signals are then interpreted by the computer and displayed, or output, on the monitor as text or images. In the lower half of the image, the computer sends, or outputs, data to a printer. Then, that data is printed onto a piece of paper, which is also considered output. |
|---|---|

**Input device are used to enter (or input) data and information into a computer.**

Example of Input Devices:

- **Keyboard**.
- **Mouse**.
- **Joy Stick**.
- **Light pen**.
- **Scanner**.
- **Microphone**.
- **Touchscreen**
- **Webcam**
- **Bar-code Scanner**

**An output device is any piece of computer hardware equipment which converts information into human-readable form. It can be text, graphics, audio, and video.**

Examples of Output Devices

- **Monitor**.
- **Printer**.
- **Headphones**.
- Computer **Speakers**.
- **Projector**.
- **Sound Card**.
- **Video Card**.

## Software:

Software is a group of instructions that you give to the computer to make it work. **Software** comprises the entire set of programs, procedures, and routines associated with the operation of a **computer** system. *Software* is an electronically stored data that gives instructions to a computer. A set of instructions that directs a **computer's** hardware to perform a task is called a program, or **software** program. An **example** of **software** is Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Paint or Windows .etc

To be continued…