Name _____ Date _____

Input, Output, Storage and Processing: How a Computer Handles Information

Directions: Each question is about how a computer takes in, works on, sends out or saves information. Match the words first, then look for those steps in everyday devices.

1. Match each word to what it means when we talk about computers.
Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ Input
2. _____ Output
3. _____ Processing
4. _____ Storage
5. _____ Memory
6. _____ Sensor

Choices for question 1

A. A part that measures something in the world, such as heat, light or motion
B. Keeps files saved even after the power is turned off
C. Information a computer sends back out to people
D. Information going into a computer
E. Holds what the computer is using right now and empties when the power goes off
F. Working on information by following a program's instructions

2. A smart thermostat measures how warm a room is, decides whether to turn on the heater, and shows the temperature on its screen. Which part of its job is processing?

A. Measuring how warm the room is
B. Showing the temperature on its screen
C. Deciding whether to turn on the heater
D. Keeping its schedule saved during a power outage

3. Jayden is playing a game on a game console. Which two of these are input for the console? Choose 2.

☐ A. His saved game kept while the console is off
☐ B. His score showing on the screen
☐ C. Jayden pressing a button on the controller
☐ D. A camera seeing Jayden wave his arms
☐ E. Music playing from the TV speakers

4. The front door at Paloma's school slides open by itself when someone walks up to it. Which part notices that a person is there?

A. The glass in the door

B. A motion sensor that sends information to the door's computer

C. The motor that pushes the door open

D. Storage that keeps the door's saved files

5. Marco is halfway through a drawing he has not saved when the power suddenly goes out. When the computer turns back on, the new part of his drawing is gone. Why?

A. The keyboard was holding it until he saved it.

B. It was in storage, which empties when the power goes off.

C. It was only in memory, which empties when the power goes off.

D. The processor erased it on purpose.

6. Wren's fitness watch buzzes on her wrist when she reaches her step goal for the day. Which job is the buzz?

A. Input B. Storage C. Output D. Processing

7. Sam types 25 + 17 into a calculator app and taps the equals sign. Which part works out the answer?

A. Storage B. The processor

C. The touchscreen D. The speakers

8. Maria uses a headset with a microphone to talk with her grandpa on a video call. Why does her headset count as both an input device and an output device?

A. It is input when the call starts and output when the call ends.

B. It is software when she talks and hardware when she listens.

C. It only sends sound out, so it is really just output.

D. Its microphone sends her voice in, and its speakers bring her grandpa's voice out to her ears.

9. Omari's tablet has 64 GB of storage. Its system files and apps take up 21 GB, his photos take up 30 GB, and nothing else is saved on it. How many GB of storage are still free?

_____ GB

10. Nadia asks a smart speaker, "What's the weather today?" A moment later, it answers out loud. What happens right after the microphone picks up her question?

A. The speaker turns itself off to save power.

B. Her words are processed to work out the question and find the answer.

C. The speaker plays the answer before Nadia finishes asking.

D. The microphone saves her voice in storage forever.