

Unit 10 Magnetic storage

Name:

1 Complete this conversation in a computer shop by typing in words or phrases from the box.

storage head crash holds read/write back up don't portable hard
shouldn't platters should external capacity formatted

Sales assistant: Can I help you with anything?

Anna: Yes, please. I need a new (1) drive.

Sales assistant: OK. Are you looking for an internal drive or an (2) one?

Anna: Well, I need it for moving files between home and work.

Sales assistant: Sure. Well, you've basically got two options. If you need a lot of (3) for secondary (4) , then you could try this Freecom drive. It (5) 750GB. That's probably enough to (6) your whole computer many times over. You'd probably have lots of space left for archiving any files that you don't need on a day-to-day basis. This one's £140.

Anna: That's a little expensive, to be honest. And I probably don't need 750GB. My home computer only has a 120GB drive! And it looks a bit heavy to carry around.

Sales assistant: In that case, you need something more (7) . This might be what you're looking for: the ATMT HD160 Ultra-Portable. It's only 20GB, but it's light and relatively cheap – only £80.

Anna: That sounds perfect. I'll take it. Is it already (8) ?

Sales assistant: Yes, it's all ready to use. Just bear a couple of things in mind if you're carrying it between home and work a lot. Inside the drive there is a stack of metal (9) that are used to store the information. (10) move the disk while the platters are spinning – you'll be able to hear them – or the drive could suffer a (11) . That's when the (12) head touches the disk surface.

Anna: Right, OK. Anything else I need to know?

Sales assistant: Just a couple of things. You (13) unplug the drive without using the 'Remove hardware' command first. And you (14) check the drive regularly for viruses, especially if you're moving it between machines.

Anna: OK, well thanks for all your help. Now where do I go to pay?



Now listen to the dialogue.

2 Complete these sentences by choosing the correct phrase from the drop-down menu.

- 1 The average time it takes the read/write heads to move and find data on a disk is called the .
- 2 is another way of saying *seek time*.
- 3 is the average speed required to transmit data to the CPU from the disk; it is measured in megabytes per second.
- 4 Once formatted, a disk's surface is organized into circular . Each of these is then divided into .
- 5 When a disk is formatted, a is created by the operating system to record the location of files.
- 6 If you have more than one on your hard drive, you can install more than one operating system.