



Cambridge International AS & A Level

COMPUTER SCIENCE

9618/11

Paper 11 Theory Fundamentals

May/June 2022

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 75

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **8** printed pages.



Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.



Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	1 mark for: one tebibyte is 1024 gibibytes and one terabyte is 1000 gigabytes	1
1(b)	1001 1100	1
1(c)	1 mark for working e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dividing by 16 // converting to binary (11111011) 1 mark for answer FB	2
1(d)	1000 1110	1

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	1 mark for each correct term. Random Access Memory (RAM) and Read Only Memory (ROM) are both examples of primary memory. One item that is stored in RAM is currently running software/data/part of OS . One item that is stored in ROM is the start-up/boot-up instructions/BIOS . RAM can be either Static RAM (SRAM) or Dynamic RAM (DRAM). SRAM uses transistors arranged as flip-flops/latches . DRAM uses transistors and capacitors .	5
2(a)(ii)	1 mark per bullet point to max 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PROM can be set once, EPROM and EEPROM can be overwritten multiple times. EPROM needs to be removed from device EEPROM can be erased in situ. EPROM and can be erased using UV light, EEPROM can be erased using voltage // is flash storage . EPROM must be entirely erased before rewriting, EEPROM does not have to be entirely erased before rewriting. 	3

Question	Answer	Marks																					
2(b)	<p>1 mark per bullet point to max 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard disk has (one or more) platter/plate/disk • Each surface of the platter/disk is (ferrous oxide which is) capable of being magnetised • The platters/disks are mounted on a (central) spindle • The entire mechanism is contained inside a sealed (aluminium) box. • The disks are rotated (at high-speed) • (Each surface of the disk) has a read/write head mounted on an arm (positioned just above the surface) • Electronic circuits control the movement of the arm (and hence the heads) • The surface of the platter/disk is divided into <u>concentric</u> tracks / circles • The surface of the platter/disk is divided into sectors • One track in one sector is the basic unit of storage called a block • The data is encoded as a magnetic pattern for each block • When writing to disk, a variation in the current in the head produces a variation in magnetic field on the disk • When reading from disk, a variation in magnetic field produces a variation in current through the head 	5																					
2(c)(i)	<p>1 mark for each correct row.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 1043 868 1469"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gate</th> <th>Input 1</th> <th>Input 2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AND</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">NAND</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">XOR</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NOR</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Gate	Input 1	Input 2	AND	1	1	NAND	0	0	0	1	1	0	XOR	0	1	1	0	NOR	0	0	4
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2(c)(ii)	<p>1 mark per bullet point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A NAND B • B XOR C • OR <p>(A NAND B) OR (B XOR C)</p>	3																					

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	Security prevents against loss while privacy prevents unauthorised access	1
3(b)	<p>1 mark for identifying threat, 1 mark for description, 1 mark for security measure (times 2)</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malware • Malicious software that replicates and can delete/damage the examination papers • Install and run anti-malware • Hacker/unauthorised access • Illegal access in order to delete/damage the examination papers • Use a firewall // strong passwords • Spyware • Software installed on the computer without the teacher’s knowledge which records keystrokes and sends the data gathered about the examination papers to a third party • Use a firewall / install and run anti-spyware / use a virtual (onscreen) keyboard 	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	<p>1 mark per bullet point to max 4</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced data redundancy // less repeated data • ...because each item of data is only stored once • Maintains data consistency // improves data integrity • ...changes in one table will automatically update in another • ... linked data cannot be entered differently in two tables • Program-data independence • ...changes to the data do not require programs to be re-written • Complex queries are easier to run • Can provide different views •so users can only see specific aspects of the database 	4
4(b)	<p>1 mark for 3NF</p> <p>1 mark per bullet for justification to max 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no repeated attributes // it is already in 2NF • Each field is fully dependent on the corresponding primary key // no partial dependencies • No transitive dependencies 	3



Question	Answer	Marks
4(c)(i)	<p>1 mark per bullet point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create table, table name, opening and closing brackets • StudentID and Mark as integer • TestID as Varchar • Primary key correctly set up • Foreign keys correctly set up <p>e.g.</p> <pre>CREATE TABLE STUDENT_TEST (StudentID INTEGER, TestID VARCHAR, Mark INTEGER, PRIMARY KEY(StudentID,TestID), FOREIGN KEY(TestID) REFERENCES TEST(TestID), FOREIGN KEY(StudentID) REFERENCES STUDENT(StudentID));</pre>	5
4(c)(ii)	<p>1 mark for each point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AVG(Mark) • SELECT and FROM STUDENT_TEST • WHERE clause <p>e.g.</p> <pre>SELECT AVG(Mark) FROM STUDENT_TEST WHERE TestID = "A7";</pre>	3
4(d)	<p>1 mark per bullet point to max 3 for validation</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • range check to make sure it is between 0 and max marks • presence check to make sure a mark is entered • type check to make sure an integer value is entered <p>1 mark per bullet point to max 2 for verification</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • double entry - enter the mark twice and the computer compares them • visual check – manually compare the mark entered with the mark on the input document 	4

Question	Answer	Marks												
5(a)	<p>1 mark for 1 correct line, 2 marks for 2 correct lines, 3 marks for 3 or 4 correct lines, 4 marks for all 5 correct lines</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="316 360 624 409" style="text-align: center;">IDE feature</th> <th data-bbox="868 360 1310 409" style="text-align: center;">Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 409 624 521" style="text-align: center;">Context-sensitive prompt</td> <td data-bbox="868 409 1310 521" style="text-align: center;">Executes one line of the program and then stops</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 584 624 730" style="text-align: center;">Dynamic syntax check</td> <td data-bbox="868 584 1310 730" style="text-align: center;">Underlines or highlights statements that do not meet the rules of the language</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 792 624 938" style="text-align: center;">Breakpoint</td> <td data-bbox="868 792 1310 938" style="text-align: center;">Outputs the contents of variables and data structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 1001 624 1113" style="text-align: center;">Single stepping</td> <td data-bbox="868 1001 1310 1113" style="text-align: center;">Stops the code executing at a set line</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 1176 624 1288" style="text-align: center;">Report window</td> <td data-bbox="868 1176 1310 1288" style="text-align: center;">Displays predictions of the code being entered</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	IDE feature	Description	Context-sensitive prompt	Executes one line of the program and then stops	Dynamic syntax check	Underlines or highlights statements that do not meet the rules of the language	Breakpoint	Outputs the contents of variables and data structures	Single stepping	Stops the code executing at a set line	Report window	Displays predictions of the code being entered	4
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5(b)	<p>1 mark each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Source Initiative • Free Software Foundation 	2												
5(c)	<p>1 mark per bullet point to max 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saves (programming/testing) time as code does not have to be written/re-written from scratch // code does not have to be tested • Code is already tested so it is more robust/likely to work • If there is an improvement in the library routine the program updates automatically • can perform complex calculations that the programmer may be unable to do 	3												

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)(i)	<p>1 mark per bullet point to max 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Program Counter (PC) holds the address of the next instructionand the contents are incremented / changed to the next address each cycle The Memory Address Register (MAR) holds the address to fetch the data (from the PC) The Memory Data Register (MDR) holds the data at the address in MAR The instruction is transferred to Current Instruction Register (CIR) for decoding and execution 	5
6(a)(ii)	<p>1 mark for detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the start/end of a FE cycle <p>1 mark for handling to max 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority is checked If lower priority than current process continue with F-E cycle If higher priority than current process state of current process is / registers are stored on stack Location / type of interrupt identified... ...appropriate ISR is called to handle the interrupt When ISR finished, check for further interrupts (of high priority) / return to step 1 Otherwise load data from stack and continue with process 	5
6(b)	<p>1 mark for factor 1 mark for impact</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clock speed... ...higher clock speed means more FE cycles per second Number of cores... ...means more instructions can be carried out simultaneously Bus widthallows the transfer of more data each time // allows more memory locations to be directly accessed Cache the higher capacity the more frequently used instructions it can store for fast access 	2
6(c)(i)	0000 0000	1
6(c)(ii)	0110 1101	1
6(c)(iii)	1101 0000	1

