

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

ATC(U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL TWO

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – PAPER 8

WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2008

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Time allowed: **3** hours.
2. Attempt **all** questions in Section **A** and any **four** questions from Section **B**.
3. Section **A** has **twenty** compulsory multiple-choice questions, each carrying 1 mark.
4. Section **B** has **six** questions and only **four** questions are to be attempted. Each question carries 20 marks.
5. Please read further instructions on the answer book.

SECTION A

Question 1

- (i) Which of the following is an application program?
 - (a) DOS
 - (b) Novell
 - (c) Adobe premiere
 - (d) Windows NT
- (ii) What name is given to the use of multiple computers networked throughout a wide geographical area, or the world via the internet, in order to solve a single problem?
 - (a) Client server computing.
 - (b) Networked computing.
 - (c) Distributed computing.
 - (d) Peer to peer computing.
- (iii) A device that "takes a picture" of something and turns it into a computerized image is called a:
 - (a) camera.
 - (b) scanner.
 - (c) printer.
 - (d) computer.
- (iv) Which of the following statements is generally true?
 - (a) Computers are faster than humans at mathematical computations.
 - (b) Humans have more reliable long-term memory than computers.
 - (c) Computers can be programmed to write poetry.
 - (d) Computers can diagnose and treat medical conditions better than doctors.
- (v) What category of device is the keyboard?
 - (a) Output.
 - (b) Input.
 - (c) Multipurpose.
 - (d) Multimedia.

- (vi) Which of the following statements is **NOT** correct?
- (a) Hardware is the term used to describe the physical parts of a computer.
 - (b) Software is the term used to describe the instructions that cause computer systems to behave in a given way.
 - (c) A worm is one of the computer viruses that replicate themselves.
 - (d) Data protection is the concept that information relating to individuals collected and used by organizations is not necessarily subject to any regulations.
- (vii) A geographically dispersed computer network is referred to as:
- (a) WAN.
 - (b) MAN.
 - (c) LAN.
 - (d) HAN.
- (viii) Which of the following is **NOT** a phase of the systems development process?
- (a) Documentation.
 - (b) Initiation.
 - (c) Development.
 - (d) Operation and maintenance.
- (ix) The process of building or acquiring and configuring hardware, software, and other resources needed to perform the required functions is called:
- (a) initiation.
 - (b) development.
 - (c) documentation.
 - (d) operations and maintenance.
- (x) The situation where companies with substantial investments in information technology have no competitive advantage over similar companies without such investments is called:
- (a) zero-based development.
 - (b) analysis paralysis.
 - (c) productivity paradox.
 - (d) investment mismatch.

- (xi) The systems development approach that uses a prescribed sequence of steps and deliverables to move reliably from user requirements to an information system in operation is called:
- (a) prototyping.
 - (b) end user development.
 - (c) application packages.
 - (d) traditional systems development life cycle.
- (xii) Which of the following is **NOT** a secondary storage device?
- (a) Zip drive.
 - (b) CPU.
 - (c) Flash disk.
 - (d) DVD-R.
- (xiii) Computer memory is measured in:
- (a) megahertz.
 - (b) bytes.
 - (c) pulses.
 - (d) binary.
- (xiv) The base program on a computer which tells the computer how to work or operate and allows you to install other programs that do specialized tasks on to your computer is:
- (a) database management system.
 - (b) application software.
 - (c) operating system.
 - (d) internet browser.
- (xv) The smallest unit of computer storage is:
- (a) byte.
 - (b) bit.
 - (c) character code.
 - (d) hz.
- (xvi) Which of the following types of printers are used in specialist applications, such as producing architectural or engineering drawings?
- (a) Plotters.
 - (b) Line printers.
 - (c) Daisy-wheel printers.
 - (d) Chain printers

- (xvii) Which of the following is **NOT** an email feature?
- (a) Blind carbon copy.
 - (b) Address book.
 - (c) Attachment.
 - (d) MAC address.
- (xviii) A Network that connects computers located within a small geographical area is called a:
- (a) Metropolitan Area Network.
 - (b) Local Area Network.
 - (c) Wide Area Network.
 - (d) Home Area Network.
- (xix) Which of the following is a fact-finding technique?
- (a) Record inspection.
 - (b) Risk analysis.
 - (c) System documentation.
 - (d) Accounts synchronization.
- (xx) Production of a working model of a product or information system, usually built for demonstration purposes or as part of the development process is referred to as:
- (a) Feasibility study.
 - (b) Prototyping.
 - (c) Documentation.
 - (d) Investigation.

SECTION B

Question 2

- (a) What is a computer? (2 marks)
- (b) Explain the **two** components of a computer. (4 marks)
- (c) Briefly explain any **five** uses of a computer. (10 marks)
- (d) What are the **two** storage categories of a computer (4 marks)

Total 20 marks

Question 3

Giving examples, define the following terms as used in computer systems:

- (a) Operating system. (4 marks)
- (b) Application software. (4 marks)
- (c) Output. (4 marks)
- (d) Computer peripherals. (4 marks)
- (e) Random Access Memory (4 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 4

Giving examples, distinguish between:

- (a) Intranet and Extranet. (4 marks)
- (b) Viruses and Bugs. (4 marks)
- (c) Data and Information. (4 marks)
- (d) Hardware and software. (4 marks)
- (e) Server and Client. (4 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 5

- (a) Define the following terms in reference to the structure of an information system department in an organization:
 - (i) Centralization (2 marks)
 - (ii) Decentralization (2 marks)
- (b) Briefly explain **four** reasons of decentralizing an information system function in an organization. (8 marks)
- (c) Give **four** reasons for retaining a central information system department in an organization. (8 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 6

- (a) What is outsourcing?
(2 marks)
 - (b) In the context of information technology explain the term “outsourcing facilities management”.
(2 marks)
 - (c) Briefly describe **four** advantages and **four** disadvantages of outsourcing in an organization?
(16 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 7

- (a) What is software?
(4 marks)
 - (b) Briefly describe the difference between hardware and software.
(4 marks)
 - (c) Explain the **two** categories of software.
(8 marks)
 - (d) Mention any **four** storage devices that are appropriate for storing software.
(4 marks)
- Total 20 marks**