

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

ATC(U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL TWO

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – PAPER 8

WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2009

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Time allowed: **3 hours 15 minutes**.
The first 15 minutes of this examination have been designated for reading time. You may not start to write your answer during this time.
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) ISP in computer communication terms means:
- (a) Interactive Server Protocol.
 - (b) Internet Service Provider.
 - (c) Internal Point of Sale.
 - (d) Insulated Service Pack.
- (ii) A device that converts digital signals produced by terminals and computers into analogue signals that telephone circuits are designed to carry is called:
- (a) multiplexer.
 - (b) modem.
 - (c) repeater.
 - (d) router.
- (iii) The following are examples of real-time system applications **EXCEPT**:
- (a) ATM.
 - (b) EPOS.
 - (c) interactive website.
 - (d) end-of-period accounts processing.
- (iv) The person responsible for research, planning and recommending software and system choices to meet the organization's business requirements is the:
- (a) business analyst.
 - (b) systems analyst.
 - (c) systems programmer.
 - (d) developer.
- (v) Software piracy involves:
- (a) guarding against illegal access to computer's software and data.
 - (b) guarding against processing of personal data.
 - (c) copying and using commercial software purchased by someone else.
 - (d) legally re-distributing off-shelf software.
- (vi) A telephone call between more than two participants is referred to as:
- (a) tele-banking.
 - (b) coupling.
 - (c) broadcasting.
 - (d) teleconferencing.

- (vii) Which of the following is a serial access medium?
- (a) CD ROM.
 - (b) DVD.
 - (c) Magnetic tape.
 - (d) Optical disk.
- (viii) Unsolicited messages received via electronic mail are called:
- (a) junk.
 - (b) scam.
 - (c) computer virus.
 - (d) trash.
- (ix) The creation of documents, like pamphlets and brochures, on a computer for either large-scale or small scale local multifunction peripheral output and distribution is referred to as:
- (a) web design.
 - (b) desktop publishing.
 - (c) mail merging.
 - (d) word processing.
- (x) The term used to refer to programs that translate source code from a high-level programming language to a lower level language or machine code is:
- (a) compiler.
 - (b) interpreter.
 - (c) converter.
 - (d) language re-writer.
- (xi) is an organised collection of related records.
- (a) A file.
 - (b) A character.
 - (c) A field.
 - (d) An index.
- (xii) is a type of computer memory used for temporary storage of programs and data.
- (a) A central processing unit
 - (b) A hard drive
 - (c) A random access memory
 - (d) A compact disk

- (xiii) Which of the following is **NOT** a method of computer file security?
- (a) File back-up.
 - (b) Algorithm.
 - (c) Transaction log.
 - (d) Password.
- (xiv) When a computer is first switched on, the operating system must be transferred from disc to memory. This process is called:
- (a) booting.
 - (b) backing up.
 - (c) configuration.
 - (d) copying.
- (xv) Changing from an old system to a new system can be done in the following ways **EXCEPT**:
- (a) archiving.
 - (b) direct changeover.
 - (c) parallel running.
 - (d) phased conversion.
- (xvi) All systems need to be documented in order to ensure that the system can be maintained after completion. System documentation includes the following **EXCEPT**:
- (a) technical manual.
 - (b) operational instructions.
 - (c) user manual.
 - (d) feasibility report.
- (xvii) When problems befall a system, recovery procedures should be executed. The recovery procedures:
- (a) ensure continuation of business.
 - (b) explain what to do if there is an error.
 - (c) explain the turnover of company staff.
 - (d) update the existing software version.
- (xviii) The process by which money from one bank account is moved to another without any paper transactions is known as:
- (a) ATM.
 - (b) EFT.
 - (c) EPOS.
 - (d) SMS.

- (xix) If a company allows access by some outsiders to its intranet, then the network becomes:
- (a) internet.
 - (b) e-commerce.
 - (c) teleconferencing.
 - (d) extranet.
- (xx) The following are computer output devices **EXCEPT**:
- (a) speakers.
 - (b) bar code reader.
 - (c) graph plotter.
 - (d) monitor.

SECTION B

Question 2

- (a) Write brief notes on the following:
- (i) Bespoke software. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Anti-virus software. (2 marks)
 - (iii) WIMP interface. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Outsourcing. (2 marks)
 - (v) Economic feasibility. (2 marks)
- (b) Distinguish between the following:
- (i) Data and information. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Assembler language and machine language. (2 marks)
 - (iii) LAN and WAN. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Computer software and computer hardware. (2 marks)
 - (v) Computer monitor and a scanner. (2 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 3

An operating system is one very important and vital component of any computer system in today's business environment.

Required:

- (a) What is a computer operating system? (5 marks)
- (b) Give **five** examples of operating systems. (5 marks)
- (c) Describe the functions of a computer operating system. (10 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 4

Computer networks are increasingly in use in today's business operations.

Required:

- (a) What is a computer network? (2 marks)
 - (b) Give **two** different types of computer networks. (2 marks)
 - (c) Describe **four** advantages of computer networks. (8 marks)
 - (d) What are the shortcomings of computer networks? (8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 5

Many of today's IT business solutions have not realised users' expectations despite the huge resources injected in company IT projects.

Required:

- (a) Explain some of the reasons why computer systems fail to deliver up to users' expectations? (10 marks)
 - (b) Describe measures that should be taken by business proprietors to ensure that IT / computer system solutions satisfy business needs? (10 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 6

Globally, data security is of great concern to business proprietors today.

Required:

- (a) What do you understand by the term 'data security'? (2 marks)
 - (b) What are the common threats to computer data security today? (8 marks)
 - (c) Describe measures that should be put in place by business proprietors to ensure that computer data is kept secure? (10 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 7

The internet has become a necessary tool for both business and individuals.

Required:

- (a) List the major components one would require to enable them access the internet. (4 marks)
 - (b) Give **four** benefits of using the internet. (8 marks)
 - (c) What are the possible shortcomings of using the internet? (8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**