

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

ATC(U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL TWO

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – PAPER 8

THURSDAY, 21 JUNE 2012

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. This examination contains Sections **A** and **B**.
3. Section **A** is bound separately from Section **B**.
4. Attempt all the 20 multiple choice questions in Section **A**. Each question carries 1 mark.
5. Attempt **four** out of the **six** questions in Section **B**. Each question carries 20 marks.
6. Write your answer to each question in a separate answer booklet.
7. Please, read further instructions on the answer booklet, before attempting any question.

SECTION B

Attempt four of the six questions in this section.

Question 2

- (a) Explain the following terms and abbreviations:
- (i) Pixel (2 marks)
 - (ii) WYSIWYG (2 marks)
 - (iii) GIGO (2 marks)
 - (iv) EFT (2 marks)
 - (v) Multitasking (2 marks)
- (b) Distinguish between the following terms:
- (i) Data and Information. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Dot-matrix printer and laserjet printer. (2 marks)
 - (iii) Compiler and assembler. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Outsourcing and insourcing. (2 marks)
 - (v) E-mail and e-commerce (2 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 3

- (a) Describe the stages in the systems development life cycle that systems developers of projects must follow. (10 marks)
- (b) Describe the ways in which information about business systems can be collected. (10 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 4

- (a) (i) Define the term 'computer software'. (2marks)
- (ii) Give **two** examples of computer software. (2 marks)
- (b) Describe the different types of computer software. (8 marks)
- (c) Explain the functions of a computer operating system. (8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 5

- (a) Define the term 'computer network'.
(2 marks)
 - (b) Give **two** common types of networks.
(2 marks)
 - (c) Explain the benefits of using networks in business settings.
(8 marks)
 - (d) What are the disadvantages of computer networks in business?
(8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 6

- (a) Define the term 'computer system'.
(2 marks)
 - (b) Describe the characteristics of a computer.
(8 marks)
 - (c) Define the following terms using suitable examples:
 - (i) computer input device. (5 marks)
 - (ii) computer output device. (5 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 7

- (a) Explain the characteristics to be kept in mind while designing systems.
(8 marks)
 - (b) List any **four** groups of people that a systems analyst must interact with during systems analysis and design.
(4 marks)
 - (c) Why would you discourage over reliance on a computerized decision support system.
(8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**