

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

ATC(U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL TWO

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – PAPER 8

FRIDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2013

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 on a fresh page in your answer booklet.
7. Please, read further instructions on the answer booklet, before attempting any question.

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Question 5

- (a) A computer inputs data, processes data into information and gives outputs. The result of the computer processing is output or information.

Required:

Explain the different types of output generated by a computer.

(10 marks)

- (b) Explain the functions of the following IT devices:

(i) LCD projector.

(2 marks)

(ii) Plotter.

(2 marks)

(iii) Mouse.

(2 marks)

(iv) Keyboard.

(2 marks)

(v) Visual display unit (VDU).

(2 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 6

- (a) Explain the meaning of the term 'e-mail'.

(2 marks)

- (b) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using e-mail.

(10 marks)

- (c) Explain the advantages of using computers in data processing.

(8 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 7

- (a) Describe the activities that take place during the systems analysis stage of the systems development life cycle.

(4 marks)

- (b) Explain why it is important to carry out testing of software during the systems development life cycle.

(8 marks)

- (c) Describe the shortcomings of using computers.

(8 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

SECTION B

Attempt **four** of the **six** questions in this section.

Question 2

- (a) Explain the meaning of the following terms:
- (i) Cold-boot. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Warm-boot. (2 marks)
 - (iii) POST. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Barcode reader. (2 marks)
 - (v) Scanner. (2 marks)
- (b) (i) Explain how a computer carries out a task. (2 marks)
- (ii) Describe the different types of computer system software, with relevant examples.

(8 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 3

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term 'system'. (2 marks)
- (b) Describe the characteristics of a system (8 marks)
- (c) Explain at least **five** components of a computer system.

(10 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 4

- (a) What are computer generations? (2 marks)
- (b) Describe the characteristics of the various generations of computers. (15 marks)
- (c) Explain the limitations of the first generation computers.

(3 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

Question 6

- (a) Distinguish between:
- (i) technological and seasonal unemployment. (4 marks)
 - (ii) voluntary and involuntary unemployment. (4 marks)
- (b) Suggest measures that should be taken to increase the level of employment in your country. (12 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 7

- (a) (i) Distinguish between protectionism and free trade. (4 marks)
- (ii) Describe the different forms of protectionism. (4 marks)
- (b) Explain the demerits of protectionism in an economy. (12 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**