

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

ATC(U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL TWO

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – PAPER 8

FRIDAY, 6 JUNE 2014

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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SECTION B

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

Question 2

- (a) Define the term 'data processing'. **(2 marks)**
- (b) Explain the meaning of each of the following computer terms in regard to data processing?
 - (i) Parallel processing **(2 marks)**
 - (ii) Real-time processing **(2 marks)**
 - (iii) Distributed processing **(2 marks)**
 - (iv) Batch processing **(2 marks)**
 - (v) Interactive processing **(2 marks)**
- (c) Differentiate between the following information system change-over terms:
 - (i) Direct change over and parallel change over **(4 marks)**
 - (ii) Pilot change over and phased change over **(4 marks)**

(Total 20 marks)

Question 3

- (a) Define the term 'peripheral device'. **(2 marks)**
- (b) Explain how the following peripheral devices are used by computer users.
 - (i) Camcorder **(2 marks)**
 - (ii) Webcam **(2 marks)**
 - (iii) CD-R/ CD-RW drive **(2 marks)**
 - (iv) Microphone **(2 marks)**
 - (v) Headphones. **(2 marks)**
- (c)
 - (i) Explain what is meant by the term 'systems software'. **(2 marks)**
 - (ii) Explain some of the advantages of systems software. **(6 marks)**

(Total 20 marks)

Question 4

Modern institutions of learning, including primary and secondary schools have put in place computer-based education software applications to efficiently and effectively manage student data.

Required:

- (a) (i) Define the term 'computer-based information system'.
(2 marks)
 - (ii) In which ways can a computer-based education software applications be used by the different stakeholders like parents, students, and other parties?
(8 marks)
 - (iii) Explain the likely shortcomings and challenges of computer-based education systems.
(8 marks)
 - (b) Differentiate between bespoke software and off-the-shelf software.
(2 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 5

- (a) Explain briefly the following terms as used in information systems:
 - (i) E-commerce. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Electronic funds transfer. (2 marks)
 - (iii) Worldwide web. (2 marks)
 - (iv) E-learning. (2 marks)
 - (v) Hacking. (2 marks)
 - (b) (i) What is applications software?
(2 marks)
 - (ii) How can application software be disadvantageous?
(8 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 6

- (a) Describe **five** devices and media for storing and transferring data.
(10 marks)
 - (b) Describe the types of computers as classified according to size.
(10 marks)
- (Total 20 marks)**

Question 7

- (a) Describe ways in which a computer can be kept in a good working and reliable condition.

(10 marks)

- (b) (i) What is a 'user interface'?

(2 marks)

- (ii) Describe the commonly used types of user interfaces, with examples of systems where they are applicable.

(6 marks)

- (iii) Give at least **one** disadvantage of any two user interfaces identified in (b) (ii) above.

(2 marks)

(Total 20 marks)