

# THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

*A Committee of the Council of ICPAU*

## CPA(U) EXAMINATIONS

### LEVEL ONE

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PAPER 5 (i)

WEDNESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2001

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Time allowed: **2 hours 30 minutes**.
2. Attempt **all** questions in Section A and any **three** questions from Section B.
3. Section A has **ten** compulsory questions each carrying 1½ marks.
4. Section B has **five** questions and only **three** questions are to be attempted. Each question carries 15 marks.
5. Please read further instructions on the answer book.

**SECTION A.**

- (i) Which of the following is not a multi-user designed type of software?
- (a) UNIX
  - (b) MS Dos
  - (c) Windows NT
  - (d) Excel 97
- (ii) A temporary storage for copied text or graphics is:
- (a) Recycle bin
  - (b) Memory
  - (c) Clipboard
  - (d) Hard disk
- (iii) A feature that allows for a selection of options before a command is executed in a windows operating environment is a:
- (a) Dialogue box
  - (b) Control panel
  - (c) Windows option
  - (d) File manager
- (iv) Preference for storage of data on external storage devices is mainly due to:
- (a) Low cost
  - (b) High speed
  - (c) Reliability
  - (d) High capacity
- (v) Which of the following is likely to have the longest access time
- (a) Floppy disk
  - (b) CD ROM
  - (c) Magnetic tape
  - (d) Hard disk

- (vi) Which of the following is one of the best strategies of reducing staff resistance in systems implementation
- (a) Systems analysis
  - (b) Using prototyping
  - (c) Feasibility study
  - (d) Giving directives
- (vii) Which of the following is an example of a storage device?
- (a) RAM
  - (b) Monitor
  - (c) Printer
  - (d) Digital Camera
- (viii) The following statements are true of relational databases except one. Which one is it?
- (a) Any data item in an entity can act as a key.
  - (b) A key may be formed from two or more data items for unique identification.
  - (c) A key may be formed from numerals or characters.
  - (d) If need arises, values in the key field can be duplicated.
- (ix) Redundancy in a database design can be minimised through:
- (a) Linking
  - (b) Defining key fields
  - (c) Cascading
  - (d) Normalisation
- (x) Which one of the following programming languages is used for designing web pages?
- (a) C++
  - (b) JAVA
  - (c) HTML
  - (d) PASCAL

## SECTION B

### Question 2

How have developments in information and communication technology impacted on modern business?

**(15 marks)**

### Question 3

(a) Distinguish between a file and a database?

**(3 marks)**

(b) What benefits would accrue to a business entity if its customer information were organised in a distributed electronic database?

**(6 marks)**

(c) Explain the dangers associated with a distributed electronic database.

**(6 marks)**

**(Total 15 marks)**

### Question 4

In spite of the availability of many off- the shelf programmes, many business entities prefer to develop tailor- made software.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of tailor- made software.

**(15 marks)**

### Question 5

Office automation initiatives have led to the adoption of electronic mail systems and a reduction in the use of “snail” mail.

(a) Explain why you would advocate for the implementation of an electronic mailing system over the snail mail.

**(7.5 marks)**

(b) Outline any dangers that may be associated with the use of electronic mail.

**(7.5 marks)**

**(Total 15 marks)**

**Question 6**

(a) Define the following terms:

- |       |                |                  |
|-------|----------------|------------------|
| (i)   | Computer virus | <b>(2 marks)</b> |
| (ii)  | Trojan horse   | <b>(2 marks)</b> |
| (iii) | Firewall       | <b>(2 marks)</b> |

(b) Explain why it is important to maintain a secure Information Technology (IT) environment for your organisation.

**(9 marks)**

**(Total 15 marks)**