

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

A Committee of the Council of ICPAU

CPA (U) EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL ONE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PAPER 5 (I)

THURSDAY, 21 JUNE 2007

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 multiple-choice questions each carrying 1½ marks.
4. Section B has **six** 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

Question 1

- (i) One main advantage of personal digital assistants (PDA) over ordinary desktop computers in a commercial environment is:
 - (a) security.
 - (b) speed.
 - (c) portability.
 - (d) accuracy.
- (ii) A enables sharing of resources such as files and devices in a network environment.
 - (a) firewall.
 - (b) server.
 - (c) router.
 - (d) bridge.
- (iii) Which of the following is a good example of a utility program?
 - (a) Microsoft excel.
 - (b) Debugger.
 - (c) Microsoft access.
 - (d) Fox pro.
- (iv) Which of the following is a major advantage of customized software over off-the-shelf software?
 - (a) Ease of use.
 - (b) Cheap.
 - (c) Meets users real needs.
 - (d) Widely used.
- (v) Which of the following serves as a good example of open source software?
 - (a) Windows XP.
 - (b) DOS.
 - (c) Dbase.
 - (d) UNIX.
- (vi) The first two key stages of systems development are usually carried out by the:
 - (a) systems analyst.
 - (b) end user.
 - (c) programmer.
 - (d) data analyst.

- (vii) What is GUI in full?
- (a) General User Information.
 - (b) Graphical User Interface
 - (c) General Utility Interchange.
 - (d) Graphical Unit Interconnection.
- (viii) Which of the following attributes are important to consider when buying a computer for commercial use?
- (a) Brand and model.
 - (b) Size and brand.
 - (c) Brand, processor speed and memory.
 - (d) None of the above.
- (ix) The most appropriate security mechanism to improve computer network security is the application of:
- (a) security guards.
 - (b) fire walls.
 - (c) integrated servers.
 - (d) work stations.
- (x) Which of the following is the most appropriate means for sharing information between an organization / company and its partners only, for example contractors and suppliers?
- (a) Extranet.
 - (b) Internet.
 - (c) Intranet.
 - (d) Wide Area Network (WAN).

SECTION B

Question 2

Describe the skills required of the following professionals and their work functions:

- (a) Systems analyst.
- (b) Programmer (Systems / software developer).

(8 marks)

(7 marks)

(Total 15 marks)

Question 3

You are a member of a computer business study group. Your group has received a tender from a computer firm who would like to sell a personal computer with all the characteristics of a modern computer. What factors will you take into account in evaluating this tender?

(15 marks)

Question 4

(a) What is a 4GL?

(3 marks)

(b) Give the basic characteristics of a 4GL.

(5 marks)

(c) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of 4GLs.

(7 marks)

(Total 15 marks)

Question 5

(a) Distinguish between time sharing and multitasking.

(3 marks)

(b) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of time sharing.

(8 marks)

(c) What are the desirable features of a time sharing system?

(4 marks)

(Total 15 marks)

Question 6

(a) What is the difference between batch processing and real time processing

(3 marks)

(b) Discuss the merits and demerits of each.

(12 marks)

(Total 15 marks)

Question 7

(a) Outline the process of interviewing as a fact finding method.

(6 marks)

(b) What factors deter interviewees from responding?

(3 marks)

(c) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of interviewing as a fact finding method.

(6 marks)

(Total 15 marks)