

BCS Higher Education Qualification

Certificate in IT

October 2024

EXAMINERS' REPORT

Information Systems

Questions Report:

A1	
	<p>About 25% attempted this question with an average mark of 31%</p> <p>Part a) had candidates providing flow charts and UML diagrams instead of context and dataflow diagrams. Candidates should be aware that CDs and DFDs are not time dependant and do not start at the top of the page and flow downwards.</p> <p>Part b) answers relating to entity relationship diagrams were suitable; however, many answers were not coherently presented. In future, a specific focus on producing models is recommended</p> <p>Part c) was generally well answered; however, there were limited attempts to provide examples (a key aspect of the questions).</p>
A2	
	<p>Over 75% attempted this question with an average mark of 42%</p> <p>Part a) was well answered. As the question was allocated 3 marks, not much detail required.</p> <p>Part b) was well answered. However, repeated information was seen in multiple answers. Answers that focussed on prototyping, RAD, JAD or JRP were not suitable for this question as they are used in the design and development and not the analysis phase. A focus on fact-finding techniques such as questionnaires, interviews, observation, and sampling were appropriate. References to open and closed questions were award marks for the first use of this technique.</p> <p>For part c), descriptions of the methodologies were evident, however, there were limited references to project management techniques (which was the key part of the question). For example, very few answers discussed Prince2, PERT, CPA, etc., and mainly on waterfall and agile.</p>

A3	
	<p>Around 13% answered this question with an average mark of 31%.</p> <p>Part a) had a wide variety of answers for this question. The majority of responses used pseudo code and flow charts without including decision tables.</p> <p>Part b) showed an understanding of third normal form (3NF); however, there were instances where a basic description of the three levels was mentioned without providing an explanation as to why.</p> <p>In part c), answers did not show a sufficient understanding of the functions of modern database systems with some responses referring to modern databases consisting of multiple files.</p>
A4	
	<p>84% attempted this question with an average mark of 38%</p> <p>Part a) was well answered. One mark was awarded for the test type and one / two for explaining why. Answers that referred to stress testing stresses the system were only awarded one mark. Higher marks were awarded for more responses that described the methods.</p> <p>Some responses to part b) did identify issues regarding how the new system is migrated to in terms of possible infrastructure, training or changes to existing environment.</p> <p>Part c) was reasonably well attempted but lacked depth and coverage for higher marks.</p>
B5	
	<p>Candidates typically answered parts a), b), c), d) reasonably well showing at least a limited understanding of Compression, Encryption, Data Warehousing, and Data mining.</p>
B6	
	<p>Candidates typically showed a reasonable understanding of the differences between quantitative and qualitative data. Some candidates discussed advantages and disadvantages of questionnaires rather than the advantages and disadvantages of qualitative and quantitative data collection via questionnaires.</p>
B7	
	<p>Candidates generally displayed a limited understanding of the mean, median and mode. The question requires a description of each, with an explanation of how they are calculated and the final answer.</p>
B8	
	<p>Candidates typically provided a limited discussion of the elements of the BCS code of conduct. This question is about professionalism, integrity and control.</p>
B9	
	<p>Candidates typically provided a limited discussion of accessibility considerations for blind web users. Some candidates provided answers relating to visually impaired rather than blind web users.</p>
B10	
	<p>Candidates typically provided a limited discussion of the processes and stages that a company should follow to migrate from an internally based computer system to one that is entirely located in a third-party cloud provider.</p>

B11	
	Candidates typically provided a reasonable but limited discussion of the guidelines that could be used for the use different types of multimedia
B12	
	<p>In part a), candidates generally provided a reasonable definition of the Internet of Things.</p> <p>In part b) candidates typically provided a reasonable but limited discussion of the type of sensors that could be used and the type of data that could be collected for medical or commercial Internet of Things applications.</p>