BCS THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT

BCS HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS
BCS Level 5 Diploma in IT

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS PRACTICE

Thursday 18th April 2024 – Afternoon

Answer any FOUR questions out of SIX. All questions carry equal marks.

Time: TWO hours

Answer any Section A questions you attempt in Answer Book A
Answer any Section B questions you attempt in Answer Book B

The marks given in brackets are **indicative** of the weight given to each part of the question.

Calculators are **NOT** allowed in this examination.

Section A
Answer Section A questions in Answer Book A

A1.
   a) Describe the role and key characteristics of professional bodies.

                                                    (10 marks)

   b) BCS has recently talked about 'making IT good for society'. Discuss how the following help BCS and its members do this:

        i. Member groups and special interest groups.
        ii. University course accreditation and higher education qualifications.
        iii. Chartered status, e.g. the Chartered IT Professional (CITP).

                                                      (15 marks)

A2.
   a) List **THREE** different functions that the human resources (HR) department of a medium sized company (with between 100 and 250 professional staff) would be expected to carry out and outline what is involved in each.

                                                      (15 marks)

   b) Company A takes over Company B; both companies are based in the UK. What legal rights do the employees of Company B have in this situation?

                                                      (10 marks)

A3.
   a) Employees of a small UK technology company work a five-day week over a 52-week year. They are entitled to 28 days company holiday including 8 days public holiday.

      Assume that on average, 20 days a year are unproductive for an employee due to various reasons such as training and seminars. Government regulations state that, employers must pay National Insurance and pension contributions equal to 8% of total salary.

      Calculate the average direct cost of one day's work for a Team leader earning £40,000 per year and a programmer earning £25,000 per year. State explicitly any assumptions you make.

                                                      (13 marks)

   b) The main financial statements used in accounting are the income statement (also referred to as a profit and loss statement), balance sheet, and cash flow statement.

      Explain what these statements are and how they are used to assess the financial performance of an organisation.

                                                      (12 marks)

Section B
Answer Section B questions in Answer Book B

B4.
   a) Discuss the concept of delegation.

                                                      (12 marks)

   b) What is specialisation and is it useful for IT employees in a larger organisation?

      Would activities like job rotation and job enrichment be useful in the IT department?

                                                      (13 marks)

B5.

A company has developed smart glasses that can be used for augmented reality, together with a new software system for the glasses. The glasses use new technologies for the battery and image display.

   a) Compare and contrast the protection offered by patents and copyright for the glasses and the software.

                                                      (15 marks)

   b) The company plans to develop a new logo for its smart glasses. Explain how the company would register its logo as a trademark.

                                                      (10 marks)

B6.
   a) Outline the offences covered by UK Computer Misuse legislation.

                                                      (12 marks)

   b) What is meant by a distributed Denial-of-Service attack?

                                                      (3 marks)

   c) Discuss how UK Computer Misuse legislation applies to distributed Denial-of-Service attacks.

                                                      (10 marks)

END OF EXAMINATION