BCS Higher Education Qualification

Diploma

October 2024

EXAMINERS' REPORT

Big Data Management

Questions Report:

A1	
	Almost all candidates attempted this question with most of those achieving a passing grade.
	Part a) focussed on challenges for management, not challenges of data; answers often focused on the latter and not on what handling big data means for organizations; some answers touched on staffing and legal aspects but often as side consideration. The remaining parts were generally well answered showing good grasp of concepts.
A2	
	100% of candidates answered this question of which around 65% achieved a passing grade.
	Part a) focussed on challenges for management, not challenges of data; answers often focused on the latter and not on what handling big data means for organizations; some answers touched on staffing and legal aspects but often as side consideration. Part b) answers focused almost exclusively on security, with no consideration to storage, capacity planning, maintenance etc. Candidates should ensure sure they avoid focusing on one topic when the question is wider. Part d) had candidates describing Hadoop but did not explaining how it helps big data processing, hence only answering part of the question.
A3	
	Very few candidates attempted this question of which half of those achieved a passing grade.
	Candidates appeared to be less confident in part a. There were few answers to this part. When answers were provided, little detail was given. Answers omitted the explanation of the key techniques and were not able to show advantages and disadvantages. Part b) was generally acceptable. For part c), it is to be noted that Data Mining is about the *analysis* of data and not collection of data.

B4	
	All candidates attempted this question of which half ¾ received a passing grade.
	Part a showed a generally good understanding with some weakness around explaining value of data. Part b) was generally well-answered but often lacked examples and a clearer detail on the examples of data. The allocation of marks indicates that it could not be answered in only a few sentences.
B5	
	Very few candidates answered this question. Most of those who answered achieved a passing grade.
	High level ideas were clear, but answers lacked detail. More detail was expected. Candidates sometimes relied on inserting buzzwords and general ideas.
B6	
	Approximately 2/3rd of candidates attempted this question of which 2/3rd of those received a passing grade.
	Generally, a superficial understanding of Hadoop Distributed Filesystem (HDFS) was shown, with no real detail provided. This meant that answers were not always able to show a clear understanding of the concept. A lack of understanding of ACID properties was also noted. Candidates were not able to explain why they are not suitable for BDS.