

| Examiner Report            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Qualification Name</b>  | Higher Education Qualification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Qualification Level</b> | Professional Graduate Diploma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Date/ Series</b>        | April 2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Module</b>              | Systems Design Methods                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Question no.</b>        | <b>comments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| A1                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Most candidates sufficiently explained the role of use case diagrams in systems design.</li> <li>b) Candidates were typically less able to discuss the role of class diagrams in systems design i.e. answers for this part were not as good as answers for part a)</li> <li>c) Most candidates insufficiently explained the role of activity diagrams in systems design.</li> <li>d) This part caused many problems. Only some candidates provided adequate answers i.e. they sufficiently explained how both diagrams can be cross-checked for consistency. Many answers were incorrect or too general.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Question no.</b>        | <b>comments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| A2                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Unfortunately many candidates produced insufficient or wrong answers i.e. in part (i) they did not discuss such techniques as class diagrams and entity relationship diagrams. Instead they discussed e.g. DFDs, waterfall models, agile methods etc. In part (ii) they also discussed many irrelevant 'techniques'.</li> <li>b) Most candidates were unable to answer this part sufficiently well.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Question no.</b>        | <b>comments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| A3                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Most candidates did not address this part in full. Only a few candidates were able to explain 'why it is important to assess various modelling aspects of a new systems design method' in a method selection process. Many answers focused just on the meaning of data modelling, process modelling, etc.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                     | b) Most candidates provided reasonable answers i.e. for each project they suggested an appropriate approach and sufficiently justified their suggestions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Question no.</b> | <b>comments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| B4                  | <p>a) Most candidates explained the difference between reverse engineering and re-engineering reasonably well.</p> <p>b) Candidates were typically less able to discuss the suitability of the different stages of the given method for the given re-engineering, re-implementation and reverse engineering projects.</p> <p>c) Most candidates provided a reasonable discussion of suitable actions for introducing a RAD / Agile method in an organisation.</p> |
| <b>Question no.</b> | <b>comments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| B5                  | <p>a) Most candidates explained the difference between validation and verification in software projects reasonably well. However, candidates were typically less able to discuss suitable validation and verification techniques for use in the different stages of the given method process.</p> <p>b) Most candidates could discuss the suitability of the given criteria for assessing systems development methods reasonably well.</p>                        |