



**COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2020**  
**COMPUTING**  
**Paper 1 (Theory)**  
**Sec 4 E/4NA**

**Mark Scheme**

Qn	Answer				Marks
1	Statement	Register	Main Memory	Secondary Storage	
	Data is lost during power interruption	✓	✓		
	Non-volatile memory			✓	
	Slowest accessing speed			✓	
	Storage space directly used by the arithmetic logic unit and the control unit	✓			
	Used to transfer large amounts of data from one device to another			✓	
2	<div><div>Licence</div><div>Description</div><div><div>Free and Open Source</div><div>Public Domain</div><div>Freeware</div><div>Shareware</div><div>Proprietary</div></div><div><div>•</div><div>•</div><div>•</div><div>•</div><div>•</div></div><div><div>Software that is free for use for a period after which users will need to pay a fee to continue to use it.</div><div>Software where unauthorised copying of it is prohibited and its source code is kept secret.</div><div>Software that is available as “lite” version where users may use at no cost.</div><div>Software that is available for users to use, copy, study and modify.</div><div>For intellectual property that have expired or simply surrendered.</div></div></div>				
3 (a) (i)	<div>89<sub>10</sub> = 64<sub>10</sub> + 16<sub>10</sub> + 8<sub>10</sub> + 1<sub>10</sub></div> <div>= 2<sup>6</sup> + 2<sup>4</sup> + 2<sup>3</sup> + 2<sup>0</sup></div> <div>= 01011001<sub>2</sub></div>				
3 (a) (ii)	<div>9<sub>10</sub> = 1001<sub>2</sub> and B<sub>16</sub> = 1011<sub>2</sub></div> <div>Thus, 9B<sub>16</sub> = 1001 1011<sub>2</sub></div> <div>= 128<sub>10</sub> + 16<sub>10</sub> + 8<sub>10</sub> + 2<sub>10</sub> + 1<sub>10</sub></div> <div>= 155<sub>10</sub></div>	<div>9B<sub>16</sub> = 16 x 9 + 11</div> <div>= 155<sub>10</sub></div>	1		

Qn	Answer	Marks
3 (a) (iii)	$1110_2 = 8 + 4 + 2$ and $0101_2 = 4 + 1$ $= 14_{10}$ $= 5_{10}$ $= E_{16}$ $= 5_{16}$  Thus, $11100101_2 = E5_{16}$	
3 (b) (i)	Unicode can encode more characters of different languages than ASCII.	
3 (b) (ii)	RGB colour codes, memory dumps, network address, ASCII and Unicode, URL Encoding  <b>(Any TWO)</b>	
4	Wired: Network devices are connected by a physical medium such as cables. Wireless: Signals are transmitted in the form of electromagnetic waves such as radio waves and microwaves. Wired: Less convenient when expansion required as additional wiring will be needed. Wireless: Network can be expanded easily with existing equipment. Wired: Less convenient to use as equipment needs to be connected by cables at all time. Wireless: More convenient as one can work from any location within the wireless network's coverage area.  <b>(Any TWO)</b>	
5 (a) (i)	1. Technology and software have been able to <b><u>reduce the time, cost and effort</u></b> needed for payments, investments, fundraising, trading and/or data analytics for both business and individuals. 2. Algorithmic trading which is the study and refinement of algorithms to make trading decisions at speed not possible by human being <b><u>can generate profits at a speed and frequency that is impossible for a human trader.</u></b> 3. Artificial intelligence can be used to <b><u>calculate interest rates and home values by using historical pricing charts to develop a model that more accurately predicts the financial future</u></b> by taking numerous factors into account. 4. As computers can handle large volumes of information, they can <b><u>take over the manual work of analyzing data and creating meaningful reports</u></b> and so will be <b><u>more efficient in tasks such as detecting and preventing fraud.</u></b>	

Qn	Answer	Marks
	<p>5. The use of software and technology allows for easier communication and collaboration among employees in the financial sector which in turn results in the <b><u>generation of more profit for the financial institutions.</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(ANY TWO)</b></p> <p><i>(Marks to be awarded if key phrases (bold and underlined) are used.)</i></p>	
5 (a) (ii)	<p>1. Cyberattacks and ease of obtaining false information on the Internet has <b><u>made some people more vulnerable to financial scams and other get-rich-quick schemes.</u></b></p> <p>2. Cyberattacks such as <b><u>phishing and pharming</u></b> can result in <b><u>money loss or fraudulent activities.</u></b></p> <p>3. Technology has replaced huge number of jobs in the financial sector. As such, <b><u>many workers in the financial sector have lost their jobs.</u></b></p> <p>4. Data stored in database of financial institutions such as banks may be <b><u>corrupted, hacked or lost.</u></b> This can result in <b><u>loss of important data or data leakage.</u></b></p> <p>5. <b><u>Over-dependence on technology</u></b> can lead to banking activities coming to a standstill during <b><u>power outage</u></b> or <b><u>cyberattack such as denial-of-service.</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(ANY TWO)</b></p> <p><i>(Marks to be awarded if key words/phrases (bold and underlined) are used.)</i></p>	
5 (b) (i)	<p>1. Human error <b><u>Accidental damage to storage device</u></b> can happen during transportation. <b><u>Accidental overwriting of data</u></b> can happen when multiple users are working on the same file.</p> <p>2. Power Failure Data can be lost when <b><u>power supply is interrupted during the process of writing</u></b> from the volatile memory (e.g. RAM) onto the non-volatile storage device (e.g. hard disk)</p> <p>3. Hardware failure or damage Storage device can fail due to <b><u>overuse, manufacturing defects or damage.</u></b></p> <p>4. Malicious software or viruses</p>	

Qn	Answer	Marks															
	<p><b><u>Malicious software or viruses</u></b> may damage or corrupt data.</p> <p>(ANY <b><u>ONE</u></b>)</p> <p><i>(Marks to be awarded if key words/phrases (bold and underlined) are used.)</i></p>																
5 (b) (ii)	<p>1. Make <b><u>regular backups of data</u></b></p> <p>2. Use <b><u>adequate protection when handling/transporting</u></b> storage devices.</p> <p>3. <b><u>Set up rules when collaborating</u></b> so as to prevent accidental overwriting of data.</p> <p>4. Use <b><u>backup power supply or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply)</u></b> so that the storage device can complete the writing of data in case of power failures.</p> <p>5. <b><u>Check storage devices regularly and replace</u></b> them immediately when signs of failure are detected.</p> <p>6. <b><u>Install anti-virus and perform regular scans</u></b> for viruses.</p> <p>7. Avoid opening <b><u>emails from unknown sources/suspicious web links.</u></b></p> <p>(ANY <b><u>ONE</u></b>)</p> <p><i>(Marks to be awarded if key words/phrases (bold and underlined) are used.)</i></p>																
6 (a)	<p>Inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Name of the required primary school</li><li>- A list of student names together with the name of their primary school</li></ul> <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Name of students from that primary school</li><li>- Number of students from that primary school</li></ul> <p>Processes required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Search for all students from that primary school</li><li>- Count the number of students who are from that primary school</li></ul>																
7 (a)	<b>NOR</b>																
7 (b)	<table><tr><td><b>A</b></td><td><b>B</b></td><td><b>X</b></td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>X</b>	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>X</b>															
0	0	1															
0	1	1															
1	0	1															
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Qn	Answer			Marks																														
7 (c)	<div><p style="text-align: center;"><math>X = (D \text{ AND NOT } T \text{ AND } L) \text{ OR } (\text{NOT } D \text{ AND } T \text{ AND NOT } L)</math></p></div>																																	
8 (a)	num1 = 10 num2 = 20 (Any values such that num1 < num2)																																	
8 (b) (i)	<table><tr><th>num1</th><th>num2</th><th>OUTPUT</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>"Enter first number"</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>"Enter second number"</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>10</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>"Enter first number"</td></tr><tr><td>20</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>"Enter second number"</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>TRUE</td></tr></table>	num1	num2	OUTPUT			"Enter first number"	1					"Enter second number"		10				"Enter first number"	20					"Enter second number"		5				TRUE			
num1	num2	OUTPUT																																
		"Enter first number"																																
1																																		
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	5																																	
		TRUE																																
8 (b) (ii)	The algorithm checks if num1 is divisible by num2. (optional: It will display TRUE if num1 is divisible by num2 and display FALSE if num1 is not divisible by num2.)																																	
8 (c) (i)	<p><b>Name of validation check:</b> Presence check</p> <p><b>Description:</b> To check that the user has entered a value for each input, num1 and num2.</p> <p><b>Name of validation check:</b> Format check</p> <p><b>Description:</b> To check that the user has entered only numbers for each input, num1 and num2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(ANY ONE)</b></p>			1 for name  1 for description																														
8 (d)		<table><tr><th>Test case condition</th><th>Test data</th></tr><tr><td>Normal condition</td><td>20, 2</td></tr><tr><td>Error condition</td><td>a, b</td></tr></table>	Test case condition	Test data	Normal condition	20, 2	Error condition	a, b																										
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9 (a)	<p><b>Advantage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program runs at a <b>faster</b> speed as translation has been done beforehand.</li> <li>Compiler is <b>not required</b> to run the program after compilation is complete.</li> </ul> <p>Syntax errors are detected <b>before</b> program is run.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Any <u>ONE</u>)</b></p> <p><b>Disadvantage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes to source code require recompilation before taking effect.</li> <li>Does not offer interactive mode.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Any <u>ONE</u>)</b></p>	
9 (b)	<p>Python, Scratch</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Any <u>ONE</u>)</b></p>	
10 (a)	<p><b>A5:</b> Text</p> <p><b>B2:</b> Percentage</p> <p><b>E9:</b> Currency</p>	
10 (b) (i)	PPMT	
10 (b) (ii) (a)	SUM	
10 (b) (ii) (b)	\$B\$9	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initialisation of three counters for highest score (highest), highest score index (h_index) and total score of all students (total) [before loop]</li> <li>- Loop management for reading scores of 20 students</li> <li>- Input and store in list scores of 20 students (at start of loop)</li> <li>- Validate scores (within 0 and 100)</li> <li>- Totalling all students' scores</li> <li>- Checking for highest score...</li> <li>- ... updating highest score if highest score is found</li> <li>- ... updating highest score index if highest score is found</li> <li>- Calculating average score of all students (outside of loop)</li> <li>- Outputting average score of all students (outside of loop)</li> <li>- Outputting index of highest score (outside of loop)</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Sample pseudo-code:</b></p> <pre> highest, h_index, total = 0, 0, 0 FOR x = 0 TO 19     REPEAT         INPUT score[x]     UNTIL (score[x]&gt;=0) and (score[x]&lt;=100)     total = total + score[x]     IF score[x] &gt; highest         highest = score[x]         h_index = x     ENDIF NEXT avg = total / 20 OUTPUT avg OUTPUT h_index </pre>	
12	<p><b>Error 1:</b> times = 1  <b>Correction:</b> times = 0</p> <p><b>Error 2:</b> INPUT words[times]  <b>Correction:</b> INPUT words[x]</p> <p><b>Error 3:</b> times = times – 1  <b>Correction:</b> times = times + 1</p> <p><b>Error 4:</b> IF times &gt;= 0  <b>Correction:</b> IF times &gt; 0</p>	

13 **Sample Flowchart**

**Total = 7**

