A-LEVEL ICT
INFO1
Report on the Examination

2520
June 2018

Version: 1.0
It was pleasing that many centres ensured that their candidates’ Sample Work was between 10 and 20 pages in length and was attached to the script with just one treasury tag, thus enabling candidates and examiners to find the relevant work with ease.

Centres are reminded that the Sample Work should contain a section which includes the items referred to in Analysis (topic 2 in the specification) and Testing of ICT-related solutions (topic 9 in the specification).

Centres are also reminded that candidates should NOT submit:
- Sample Work that contains duplicate evidence for each item required
- Sections on design, implementation and evaluation.

Candidates who have a large number of pages to look at may be at a disadvantage because they have too much to read through to find the relevant work during the examination.

It was pleasing to see that most candidates attempted all questions on the examination paper.

Centres are reminded to read this report in conjunction with the section in the specification where the expectations of candidates performing at grades A and E are described (Appendix A, pages 33 to 35) and the example answers in the mark scheme.

**Question 1**

Many candidates demonstrated good knowledge of this area and gave good examples of storage media. To gain full marks candidates also stated what the media could be used for.

**Question 2**

Some candidates answered this question well, giving examples of the client requirements and explaining how the effectiveness of the solution could be evaluated.

**Question 3**

This question was answered very well by some candidates, who gave a good account of a problem they had solved and the software they had used. The majority of the candidates who achieved good marks used problems which were resolved by providing a solution using Word-processing, Spreadsheet, Database, or Presentation software. To gain high marks candidates should have included the functionality of the software that they had used explaining how that had made their solution effective.

**Question 4**

On the whole this question was well answered with many candidates gaining 4 or 5 of the marks available.
Question 5
It was pleasing to see a number of candidates showing their understanding of the practical work undertaken during their study of this unit and gaining high marks as a result.

Question 5 (a)
Some candidates gained 50% of the 6 marks available. Many candidates were able to just state a problem but failed to mention any other aspect of the problem identification.

Question 5 (b)
Most candidates gained at least 3 or 4 marks explaining why client requirements needed to be identified and clearly documented.

Question 5 (c)
Generally this question was answered well with candidates giving at least two other reasons for testing.

Question 5 (d)
Some candidates gained full marks for this question as they described and justified tests for two different reasons. Other candidates only described tests for one reason and, therefore, gained fewer marks.

Question 6
On the whole candidates are able to give good, detailed answers to health issues relating to regular computer users and the equipment they should be provided with.

Question 7
This question was answered well by many candidates. A high number of candidates gained at least half marks with the full range of marks being awarded. To gain high marks in this essay candidates needed to address all aspects of the question.

On the whole better candidates wrote very good answers to this question without veering from the topic, showing good knowledge and understanding of the hardware, software required for the students to keep up with their school/college work and keep a photographic record of their trip.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results Statistics page of the AQA Website.

Converting Marks into UMS marks

Convert raw marks into Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) marks by using the link below.

UMS conversion calculator