

Principal Examiner Feedback

January 2013

Principal Learning
Information Technology (IT101/01)

Technology in Organisations

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General Comments

As in previous series learners made a good attempt at the paper and all candidates were successful with a good percentage achieving an A or A* grade.

In general, candidates did better where the focus was on Learning Outcome 1 - 'Know the key components of technology systems used in business', as against Learning Outcome 2 - 'Know why an organisation should implement or improve a technology system'.

Question 1

This question focussed on EPOS and EFTPOS, in particular barcodes and loyalty cards. Candidates generally achieved high marks on the questions about barcodes and they did very well on the EFTPOS question. However, only a small minority were able to identify the type of software used to store customers' purchase data.

Question 2

This question focussed on technology systems used in the entertainment industry, in this instance a cinema complex.

The majority of candidates scored high marks for identifying the functions of components of a self service ticket machine; although a significant number incorrectly thought that a speaker was used for input.

Candidates were, in general, able to identify a benefit to the cinema of providing an online ticket purchasing system. They were also able to identify reasons for producing a newsletter online. These questions addressed LO2 and it was pleasing to see that candidates did well.

Question 3

The focus of this question was on banking, in particular ATMs and online banking.

Candidates scored well on the LO1 focussed questions in (a) and (b) but, similar to the previous series, were less successful the LO2 focussed question in (c) (d) and (e).

As in previous series, candidates showed a good understanding of sensible advice to follow when setting passwords.

Question 4

The focus of the question was e-commerce.

The majority of candidates scored well in (a) showing a good understanding of internet shopping. However, only a minority were able to identify the advantage of automatic data capture.

As in Question 1 candidates struggled to identify software types in (b)(ii).

Question 5

The scenario for the question was transport and logistics.

Candidates scored very well in (a), correctly identifying the registration number is needed to identify a vehicle. However the responses to the other parts of the question were less strong. Only half of candidates were able to identify other data collected as part of a traffic congestion system.

(b)(i) and (b)(ii) related to devices used in traffic control systems and while slightly more than half of candidates identified an input device used in these systems. Fewer were able to identify an appropriate output device.

Candidates struggled with (c) where they were asked to identify data input to and provided by a route finder; with the majority only gaining two of the four marks available.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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