

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

Principal Learning in Information
Technology (IT101) Paper 01
Technology in Organisations

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General Comments

Compared to June 2012, learners were stronger on Learning Outcome 1 – ‘Know the key components of technology systems used in business’.

Unfortunately, the responses to Learning Outcome 2 - ‘Know why an organisation should implement or improve a technology system’ were weaker in this series.

Question 1

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

Candidates generally did well in identifying input and output devices associated with a PC, but did less well in identifying a DVD as storage media.

The majority were able to identify the components needed to access the internet and the advantage of online banking for a customer. They did less well in identifying the LO2 question relating to an advantage for the bank.

Question 2

This question focussed on computer networks and music downloads.

The majority were able to identify a server as being the main computer in a network, but only a minority were able to identify a wired connection being more secure than wireless connections.

Only a minority identified how access to websites can be controlled. Generally learners were weak in responses about downloading music.

Question 3

The focus of this question was on supermarket shopping, including EPOS, EFTPOS and self service checkouts.

Learners performed better in this question than in the first two. They generally showed an understanding of EPOS systems and did particularly well in (c) - EFTPOS systems.

Question 4

The scenario for the question was a double glazing company and a representative's use of a company laptop.

The majority struggled to identify the main reason for providing the laptop; however they did better in identifying the software used to carry out calculations and the method of accessing the internet.

Only a minority identified the benefit to the company of a representative working from home (Learning Outcome 2).

The majority of learners gained more than half marks by identifying media for storing backup.

Question 5

The focus of the question was on technology used in car manufacture.

Whilst the majority identified an advantage of a CAD system and why manufacturers are willing to invest in them, few were able to identify a plotter as a device to produce a hard copy of a design.

Learners were weak in identifying reasons for using CAM and process control systems.

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