



NSW Education Standards Authority

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Centre Number

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Student Number

**2024** HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

# Software Design and Development

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## General Instructions

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 3 hours
- Write using black pen
- Draw diagrams using pencil
- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page and either page 41 or page 49

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## Total marks: 100

### Section I – 20 marks (pages 2–13)

- Attempt Questions 1–20
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

### Section II – 60 marks (pages 17–39)

- Attempt Questions 21–30
- Allow about 1 hour and 50 minutes for this section

### Section III – 20 marks (pages 41–56)

- Attempt either Question 31 or Question 32
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

## Section I

**20 marks**

**Attempt Questions 1–20**

**Allow about 35 minutes for this section**

Use the multiple-choice answer sheet for Questions 1–20.

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**1** Which of the following is covered by a software licence?

- A. The data types used by the software
- B. The security of the data in the system
- C. The ease of use of the interface by users
- D. The number of users running the software

**2** A software solution is to be developed by a team, initially with a small number of features. More features will be added over the life of the project in response to user feedback.

Which development approach would be most suitable for this software solution?

- A. RAD
- B. Agile
- C. End-user
- D. Prototyping

**3** A new system is being implemented. The old system will be kept running until all problems with the new system are resolved.

Which installation method is being used?

- A. Pilot
- B. Phased
- C. Parallel
- D. Direct cut over

- 4 A software developer uses artificial intelligence software to generate code for a software solution.

Which of the following is the developer using?

- A. Piloting
- B. A compiler
- C. Outsourcing
- D. A CASE tool

- 5 Which of the following describes data that would best be stored in an array of floating point/real numbers?

- A. Dice rolls that are randomly generated for a game
- B. The average daily temperature for each day in 2024
- C. Product codes that need to be sorted alphabetically for display
- D. Attendance data for a school indicating whether each student was absent or present

- 6 Company *A* and company *B* have made an agreement that company *B*'s internet browser will be the default browser for company *A*'s operating system.

Legal action is being considered against both companies due to the nature of this agreement.

Which statement best describes the relevant issue here?

- A. It is a software market issue because the companies are minimising competition.
- B. It is a copyright issue because both companies can claim intellectual property for their software.
- C. It is a project management issue because the browser and the operating system must be made compatible with each other.
- D. It is an ergonomic issue because of potentially inconsistent interface design between the browser and the operating system.

7 Consider the following code fragment.

```
Get Age
CASEWHERE Age IS
    < 12           : Price = 5
    >= 12 AND < 60 : Price = 10
    >= 60         : Price = 8
ENDCASE
```

Initially 6, 20, 60 were used as test data.

Which of the following additional test data sets is the most useful for fully testing the code?

- A. 11, 13
- B. 11, 61
- C. 12, 13
- D. 12, 61

Use the following interface design to answer Questions 8–9.

**Census 2024**

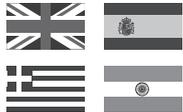
Please answer the questions about where you are staying tonight

Enter your 6-digit code  ①

Enter suburb  ②

Do you own your own home? Y  N  ③

How many people are staying in your house tonight?  ▼ ④



Click the flag for your language ⑤

The interface has a number of features identified as ①, ②, ③, ④ and ⑤.

As a user types the letters of their suburb (feature ②), an updated list of possible suburbs is displayed for the user to select from.

- 8 Which row of the table correctly identifies the most suitable way to store the data captured through the identified features?

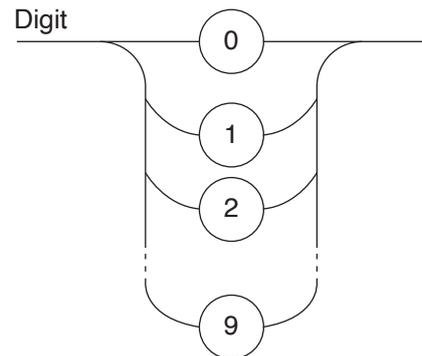
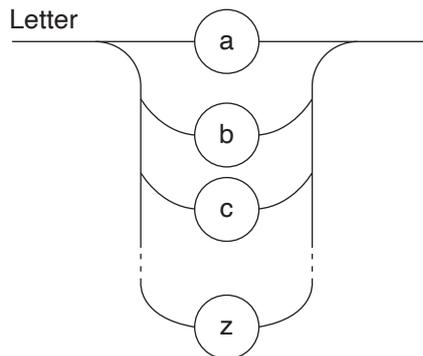
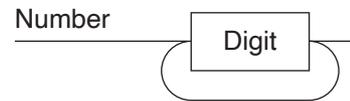
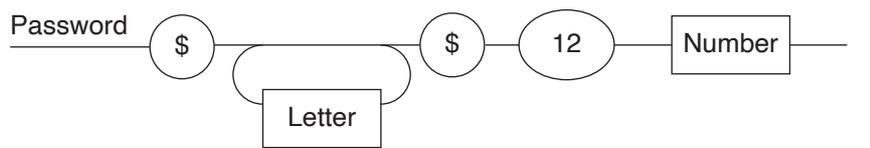
	Homeowner ③	NumPeopleStaying ④	Language ⑤
A.	Boolean	Integer	Integer
B.	String	Floating point/real	Image
C.	String	Integer	Integer
D.	Boolean	Floating point/real	Image

- 9 By using appropriate interface design features, a developer can address issues such as inclusivity, ergonomics, privacy and data validation.

Which row correctly matches specific interface features with the relevant issues they are designed to address?

	<i>Feature</i>	<i>Issue</i>		<i>Feature</i>	<i>Issue</i>
A.	①	Inclusivity		②	Validation
B.	②	Ergonomics		⑤	Inclusivity
C.	③	Privacy		①	Ergonomics
D.	⑤	Validation		③	Privacy

Use the following information to answer Questions 10–11.



**10** Which of the following is a correct Password using this definition?

- A. \$abc\$12
- B. \$aab\$120
- C. \$ab12\$12
- D. \$help\$help\$123

11 Which of the following EBNF definitions is logically equivalent to the railroad diagram provided?

- A. Password =  $\{ \langle \text{Letter} \rangle \}^{12} \langle \text{Number} \rangle$   
 Letter =  $[a|b|c| \dots |z]$   
 Number =  $\langle \text{Digit} \rangle \{ \langle \text{Digit} \rangle \}$   
 Digit = 0, 1, 2, ... , 9
- B. Password =  $\{ \langle \text{Letter} \rangle \}^{12} \langle \text{Number} \rangle$   
 Letter =  $[a|b|c| \dots |z]$   
 Number =  $\langle \text{Digit} \rangle [ \langle \text{Digit} \rangle ]$   
 Digit = 0|1|2|3| ... |9
- C. Password =  $\langle \text{Letter} \rangle^{12} \langle \text{Number} \rangle$   
 Letter =  $\{ a|b|c| \dots |z \}$   
 Number =  $\langle \text{Digit} \rangle \{ \langle \text{Digit} \rangle \}$   
 Digit = 0|1|2| ... |9
- D. Password =  $\{ \text{Letter} \}^{12} \{ \text{Number} \}$   
 Letter =  $a|b|c| \dots |z$   
 Number =  $\text{Digit} \{ \text{Digit} \}$   
 Digit = 1|2|3| ... |9

12 An array called List contains the following data.

index	1	2	3	4
List(index)	X	A	W	C

Consider the following code fragment.

```
Temp = List(1)
List(4) = List(1)
List(1) = Temp
FOR index = 1 to 4
    Display List(index)
NEXT index
```

What is the output produced by the code?

- A. A, C, W, X
- B. C, A, W, C
- C. C, A, W, X
- D. X, A, W, X

Use the following information to answer Questions 13–14.

SUB and SAVE are two instructions available for a central processing unit.

SUB A, B, C      subtracts the contents of Register B from the contents of Register A and places the result in Register C.

SAVE X, Y      stores a copy of the contents of Register X in memory location Y.

Consider the following fragment of code.

SUB R3, R1, R2

SAVE R2, N3

**13** Before execution of the code fragment, the registers contain the following values.

<i>Register</i>	<i>Contents</i>
R1	7
R2	9
R3	15

What will be the contents of N3 after execution of the code fragment?

- A. 2
- B. 6
- C. 8
- D. 9

**14** Which of the following is performing the function of an accumulator in this code?

- A. N3
- B. R1
- C. R2
- D. R3

15 The array Fruit contains the following data.

Index	Fruit(Index)
1	Banana
2	Apple
3	Mandarin
4	Peach
5	Apricot
6	Mandarin

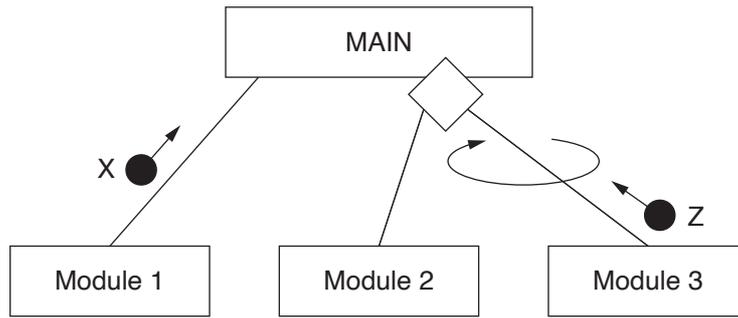
Consider the following code fragment.

```
BEGIN SEARCH
  Index = 1
  Found = 0
  Input SearchItem
  WHILE Found = 0 AND Index <= 6
    IF Fruit (Index) = SearchItem THEN
      Print Index
      Found = Found + 1
    ENDIF
    Index = Index + 1
  END WHILE
END SEARCH
```

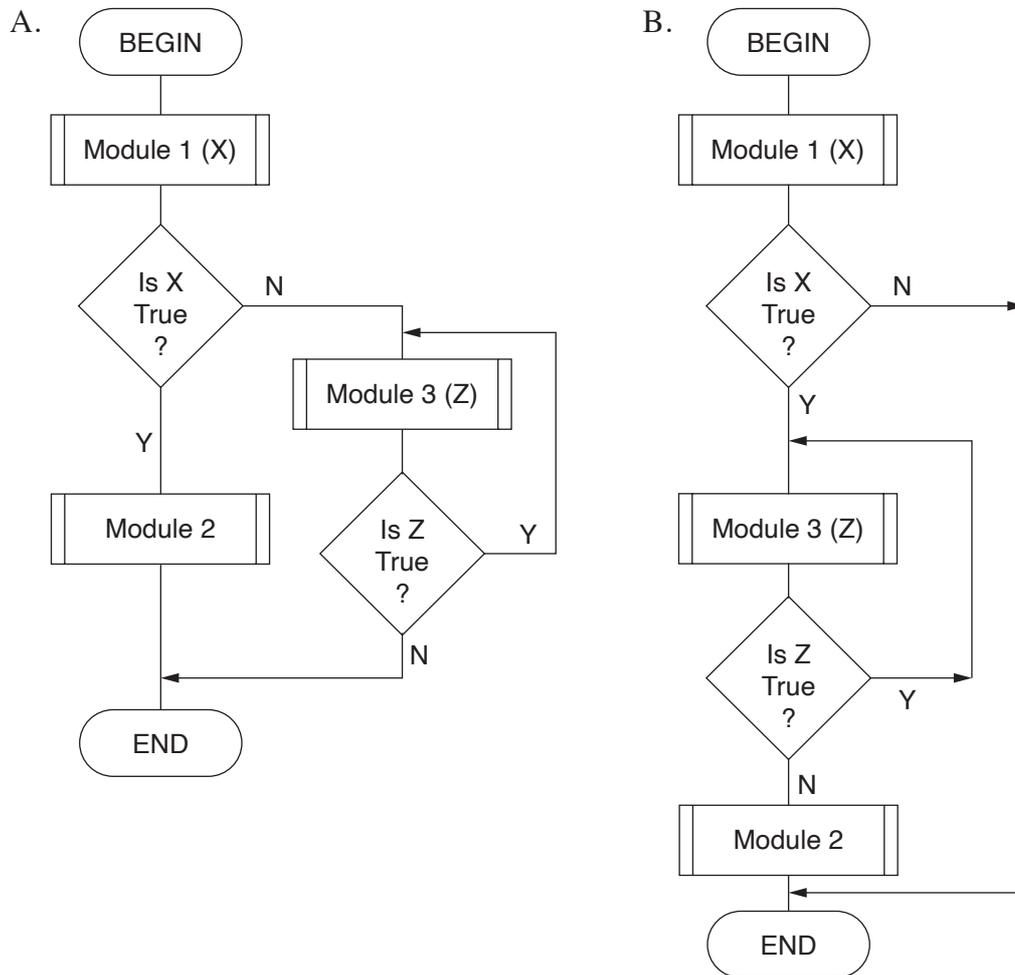
What is the output if the data entered is Mandarin?

- A. 2, 3
- B. 3
- C. 3, 6
- D. 6

16 Consider the following structure chart.



Which of the following flowcharts matches the logic in the MAIN module?



Question 16 continues on page 11



18 A program is written using a higher-level language.

Which of the following shows the correct sequence of processes that need to occur for the program to run?

- A. Token generation, parsing, compilation, execution, linking
- B. Syntactical analysis, compilation, storing, parsing, execution
- C. Syntactical analysis, parsing, linking, code generation, execution
- D. Token generation, syntactical analysis, code generation, linking, execution

19 The following array is to be sorted in ascending order, starting the sort process from the left.

14	16	18	24	20	22	26
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Which row of the table correctly matches a sort method with the minimum number of passes required, before the elements of this array are in the correct order?

	<i>Method</i>	<i>Minimum number of passes</i>
A.	Insertion	5
B.	Insertion	3
C.	Selection	3
D.	Selection	2

**20** In a system, products are identified by a 5-character product code.

Which of the following subroutines always returns a valid product code?

NOTE: LEN() returns the number of characters in a string.

- A. BEGIN GetValidCode  
    valid = FALSE  
    input code  
    WHILE valid = FALSE  
        IF LEN(code) = 5 THEN  
            valid = TRUE  
        ENDIF  
    input code  
    ENDWHILE  
    return code  
END GetValidCode
- B. BEGIN GetValidCode  
    valid = FALSE  
    REPEAT  
        input code  
        IF LEN(code) <> 5 THEN  
            valid = FALSE  
        ENDIF  
    UNTIL valid = TRUE  
    return code  
END GetValidCode
- C. BEGIN GetValidCode  
    valid = FALSE  
    REPEAT  
        input code  
        IF LEN(code) = 5 THEN  
            valid = TRUE  
        ENDIF  
    UNTIL valid = TRUE  
    return code  
END GetValidCode
- D. BEGIN GetValidCode  
    valid = FALSE  
    WHILE valid = FALSE  
        input code  
        IF LEN(code) <> 5 THEN  
            valid = FALSE  
        ELSE  
            valid = TRUE  
        ENDIF  
    ENDWHILE  
    return valid  
END GetValidCode

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Centre Number

# Software Design and Development

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Student Number

## Section II Answer Booklet

60 marks

Attempt Questions 21–30

Allow about 1 hour and 50 minutes for this section

### Instructions

- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided. These spaces provide guidance for the expected length of response.
- If you include diagrams in your answer, ensure that they are clearly labelled.
- Extra writing space is provided at the back of this booklet. If you use this space, clearly indicate which question you are answering.

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**Please turn over**

**Question 21** (6 marks)

An online application is required by the end of the school year to provide school students with information about travel opportunities. It will provide images and video clips, and will be produced by a team of developers.

- (a) Outline TWO benefits of using a team of developers to develop this application. **3**

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- (b) Describe how a Gantt chart could be used to manage the development of this application. **3**

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**Question 22** (11 marks)

A shopkeeper employs a developer to create a website to enable customers to buy items online.

- (a) Why is it important for the developer to consult the shopkeeper at the start of the development process? **2**

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- (b) Distinguish between user documentation and technical documentation for this website. **3**

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**Question 22 continues on page 20**

Question 22 (continued)

(c) Complete the partial data dictionary for this website.

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<i>Data item</i>	<i>Data type</i>	<i>Storage size bits/bytes</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Examples</i>
Surname	String	40 bytes	Surname of customer	Faruga
ItemName		20 bytes	Name of item	2 L skim milk
Quantity			Number of items	4
Order			Details of items in the order	Dozen eggs 1 \$5.00 Flour 1 kg 2 \$2.00 2 L skim milk 4 \$3.50
TotalCost		4 bytes	Total amount due	
Paid?			Has payment been made?	

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**Question 22 continues on page 21**

Question 22 (continued)

- (d) Recommend TWO ways that the developer can test this website prior to implementation.

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**End of Question 22**

**Please turn over**

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**Question 23** (6 marks)

The following algorithm was written to find the average mark and the maximum mark in a school assessment. The assessment marks are stored in a sequential file called MarksData.

```
10  BEGIN Analysis
20      Max = 100
30      Num_Students = 0
40      Open MarksData for input
50      Read Mark from MarksData
60      WHILE NOT EOF
70          IF Mark > Max THEN
80              Max = Mark
90          ENDIF
100         Add 1 to Num_Students
110         Average = Mark/Num_Students
120         Read Mark from MarksData
130     END WHILE
140     Display Max, Average
150     Close MarksData
160 END Analysis
```

The algorithm does not produce the expected output.

The file MarksData contains the values:

20  
60  
30  
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**Question 23 continues on page 23**

Question 23 (continued)

- (a) Complete a desk check for this algorithm using the values stored in MarksData.

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- (b) Suggest how the algorithm can be modified so that it achieves the correct output. You may refer to line numbers in your response.

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**End of Question 23**

**Question 24** (10 marks)

In some areas, drivers need to use an app on their phone to pay for parking.

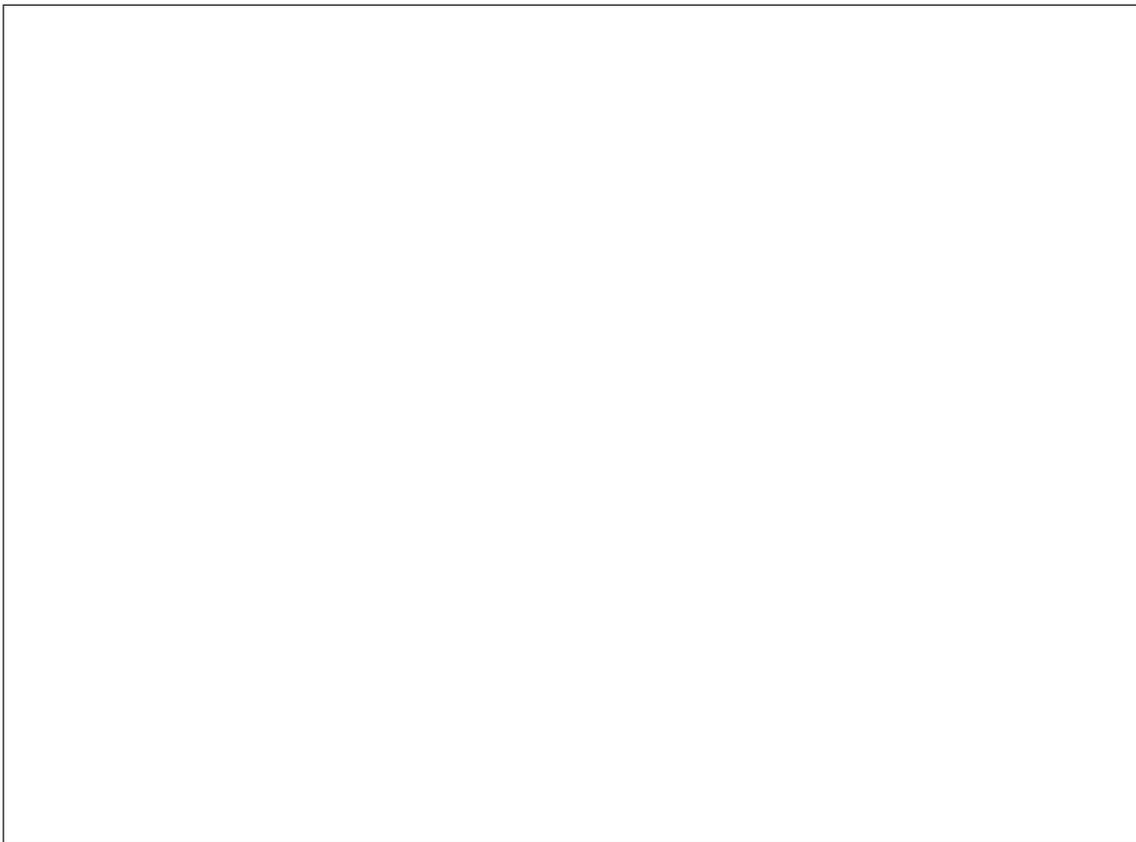
This app allows the driver to:

- create an account using their car registration number and banking details
- start and end each parking session by pressing START and END buttons
- pay for parking using the stored banking details.

For each parking session, the app records the start and end times, calculates the cost of parking, accepts payment and stores the details remotely.

The cost of parking is calculated using the hourly rate and the time spent. The hourly rate is determined by the location of the car.

- (a) Construct an IPO diagram for the module that calculates the cost of parking. **3**



**Question 24 continues on page 25**

Question 24 (continued)

- (b) Construct a data flow diagram (DFD) to document the complete app as described.

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A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw a Data Flow Diagram (DFD) to document the complete application as described in the question.

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**Question 24 continues on page 26**

– 25 –

Question 24 (continued)

- (c) Describe how the developer might have addressed ONE inclusivity concern and ONE privacy concern associated with the use of this app.

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**End of Question 24**

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**Question 25** (4 marks)

A software company is developing a system that will require a large development team. They have decided to use their own developers, and hire additional contract programmers when necessary.

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Explain how various types of documentation can be used by the contract programmers to enable them to quickly contribute to the project.

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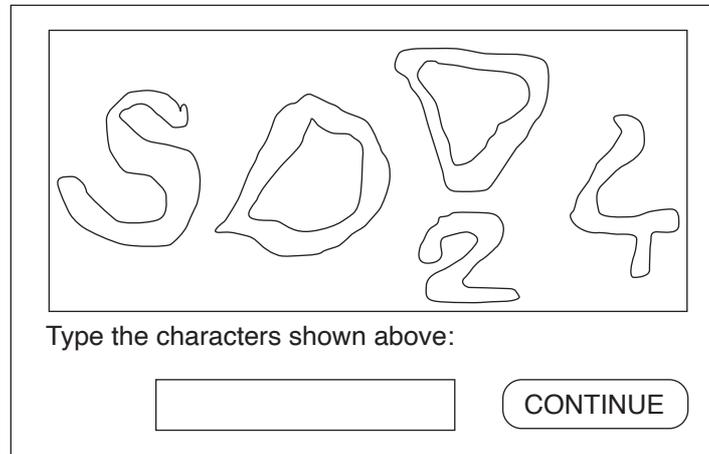
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**Question 26** (6 marks)

Many software applications use a software generated test to deter automated spam attacks by confirming that data is being entered by a human.

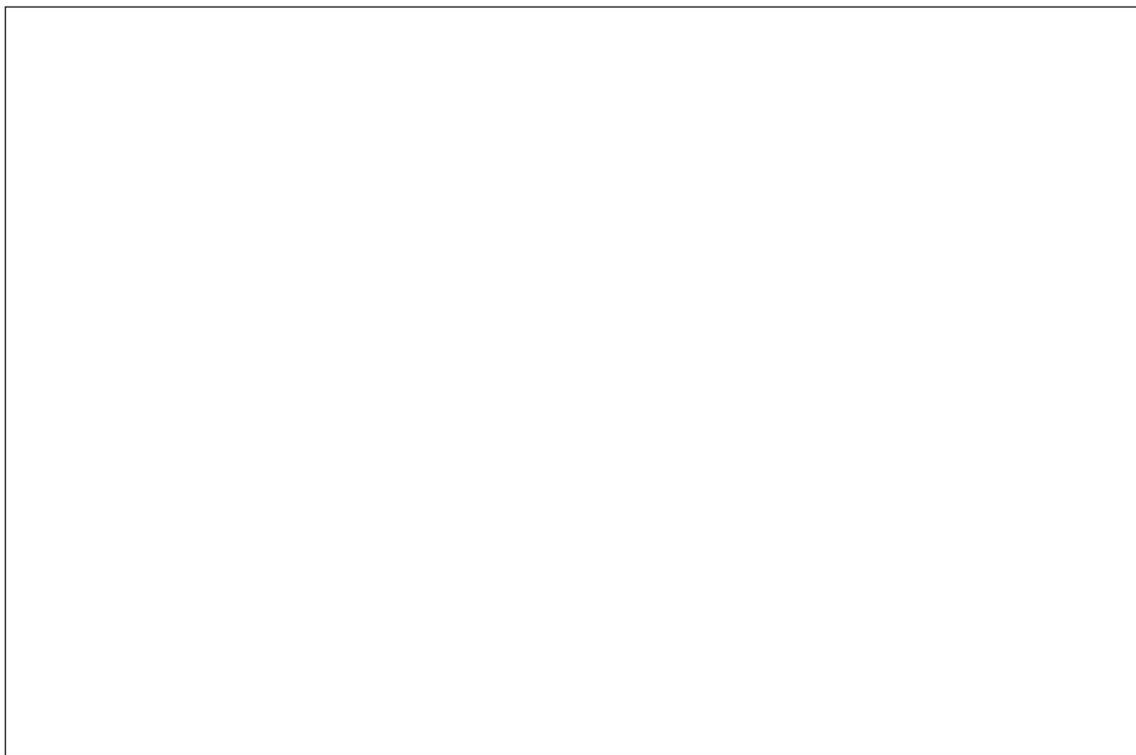
An example of such a test, named CheckIfHuman, is shown.



The user is required to type the displayed characters into the dialogue box. The system checks if there is a match, and generates a flag.

- (a) Create a context diagram to model the CheckIfHuman test.

2



**Question 26 continues on page 29**

Question 26 (continued)

- (b) In the following code, `CheckIfHuman` is called to confirm that the correct text characters have been entered before proceeding.

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```
BEGIN Main
  OK = TRUE
  REPEAT
    HumanDetected = CheckIfHuman
    IF HumanDetected THEN
      DisplayMessage (HumanDetected)
      DoMainProcessing
      OK = TRUE
    ELSE
      DisplayMessage (HumanDetected)
      OK = FALSE
    ENDIF
  UNTIL OK = TRUE
END Main
```

Explain why it is important that `CheckIfHuman` and `DisplayMessage` are implemented as subroutines for this application.

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**End of Question 26**

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**Question 27** (3 marks)

A palindrome is a word that reads the same forward and backward, such as the words 'refer' and 'noon'.

**3**

The following code fragment checks whether a word is a palindrome.

```
1  BEGIN PalindromeCheck(word, palindrome)
2      palindrome = TRUE
3      F = 1
4      N = number of letters in word
5      L = N
6      REPEAT
7          IF Fth letter of word is not equal to Lth letter of word THEN
8              palindrome = FALSE
9          END IF
10         L = L-1
11         F = F+1
12     UNTIL F > N
13     RETURN palindrome
14 END PalindromeCheck
```

There are no errors in the code fragment.

Explain the effect of changing line 12 to the following code.

```
12     UNTIL F > N/2 OR palindrome = FALSE
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**Question 28** (3 marks)

Distinguish between the use of debugging output statements and breakpoints when developing a software solution.

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**Question 29** (4 marks)

Compare the use of compilation and interpretation.

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**Question 30** (7 marks)

For a particular concert, there are 10 000 tickets available, and 2000 customers wanting to buy tickets. Customers are allocated tickets randomly.

Customers are required to indicate the number of tickets they would like to purchase, up to a limit of 8.

Seats are not allocated until all ticket requests have been entered.

Details of the 2000 customers are already stored, in no particular order, in an array of records called `Customer_Array`.

Each customer record has the following structure:

Cust\_ID : String  
Name : String  
Num\_Tickets : Integer  
Allocated : Boolean (becomes TRUE when tickets have been allocated)

For example:

Cust_ID	Name	Num_Tickets	Allocated
Wong4567	Wong, F	1	FALSE
Jones34	Jones, Q	3	FALSE

**Question 30 continues on page 34**

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Question 30 (continued)

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- (a) An algorithm called `AllocateTickets` is required to allocate ticket numbers to customers.

Customers are selected at random to receive their requested tickets until all available tickets are allocated. The tickets allocated will always be sequentially numbered.

The `Cust_ID` of the chosen customers are stored next to the relevant ticket number in a 10 000-element array of records called `Ticket_Array`.

For example:

TicketNumber	AllocatedCustomer
1	Jones34
2	Jones34
3	Jones34
4	Abu507
5	Abu507
...	...
9998	Wong4567
9999	Rakash234
10000	Rakash234

As the last tickets are allocated, a customer may not get all the tickets they have requested (as there may be no more tickets left). Some customers may not be allocated any tickets at all.

In the example shown above, even if `Rakash234` requested five tickets, there will only be two allocated because that is all that is left.

Design an appropriate algorithm for `AllocateTickets`.

You may use this function:

- `Rand (Min, Max)` generates a random integer between `Min` and `Max`, inclusive

**Question 30 continues on page 35**



Question 30 (continued)

- (b) The algorithm `AllocateTickets`, as described in part (a), is implemented as code.

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Explain why the function `Rand()`, as described in part (a), cannot be a stub during the testing of this code.

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**End of Question 30**

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Centre Number

# Software Design and Development

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Student Number

## Section III Answer Booklet

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Question Number

20 marks

Attempt either Question 31 or 32

Allow about 35 minutes for this section

### Instructions

- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided. These spaces provide guidance for the expected length of response.
- If you include diagrams in your answer, ensure that they are clearly labelled.
- Extra writing space is provided at the back of this booklet for this question.

Please turn over

**Question 31 – Programming Paradigms (20 marks)**

(a) Consider the following code, written using the imperative paradigm.

```
BEGIN CheckPlanet (A1, A2, SmallerPlanet)
  IF A1.size < A2.size THEN
    IF A1.weight < A2.weight THEN
      SmallerPlanet = TRUE
    ELSE
      SmallerPlanet = FALSE
    ENDIF
  ELSE
    SmallerPlanet = FALSE
  ENDIF
END
```

The code is rewritten using the logic paradigm, and includes data about many planets.

(i) It is found that the new code using the logic paradigm sometimes produces incorrect output. 2

Identify TWO possible causes for this.

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(ii) Write the rule for SmallerPlanet in the logic paradigm. 2

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**Question 31 continues on page 43**

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Question 31 (continued)

- (iii) Backward chaining is used to evaluate the query  
?SmallerPlanet(Mercury, Saturn).

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Describe how the inference engine determines the truth of this query.

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- (b) A game is to be developed where it is important that all of the characters are identical and cannot be changed, but can wear different hats.

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Justify an appropriate paradigm for developing this game.

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Question 31 continues on page 44

Question 31 (continued)

(c) Consider this OOP code fragment.

```
Class tree {  
    int height; // height of tree in cm  
    String type; // tree type can be wattle, maple or oak  
    float xcoord; // x coordinate of the tree position  
    float ycoord; // y coordinate of the tree position  
}  
  
tree Background[16] //creates an array of 16 tree objects  
  
FOR (i = 0 to 15)  
    Background[i].height = 500  
    Background[i].type = "oak"  
    Background[i].xcoord = Random() //Random () generates a random integer  
    Background[i].ycoord = Random() //between 0 and 1024  
NEXT i
```

The Background[ ] array is then used to create a display on the screen.

(i) Describe the output generated by executing this code, noting potential issues that could occur. 3

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(ii) Describe the benefits of defining the different types of trees as subclasses. 3

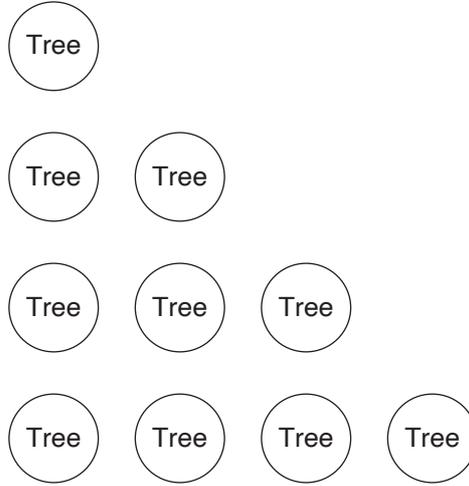
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**Question 31 continues on page 45**

Question 31 (continued)

- (iii) Based on the OOP code fragment on the previous page, provide the code that will display 10 maple trees of height 600 cm in the shape of a triangle, as shown in the diagram.

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End of Question 31

Do NOT write in this area.



**Question 31 extra writing space only**

**If you use this space, clearly indicate which question you are answering.**

Do NOT write in this area.

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Centre Number

# Software Design and Development

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Student Number

## Section III Answer Booklet (continued)

3	2
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Question Number

20 marks

Do NOT attempt Question 32 if you have already attempted Question 31  
Allow about 35 minutes for this section

### Instructions

- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided. These spaces provide guidance for the expected length of response.
- If you include diagrams in your answer, ensure that they are clearly labelled.
- Extra writing space is provided at the back of this booklet for this question.

Please turn over

**Question 32 – The Interrelationship between Software and Hardware**  
(20 marks)

- (a) Perform the following subtraction using binary arithmetic. Show working. **3**

01011100 – 00010001

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- (b) The ASCII code for a lowercase letter is 32 greater than the ASCII code for the corresponding uppercase letter. **2**

By considering the binary ASCII values, explain why a difference of 32 was chosen when the ASCII table was first designed.

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**Question 32 continues on page 51**

Do NOT write in this area.



Question 32 (continued)

- (d) In some computer systems the date and time is stored as a signed 32-bit integer, representing the number of seconds since January 1st, 1970.

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Explain why the use of this representation will cause issues in the future.

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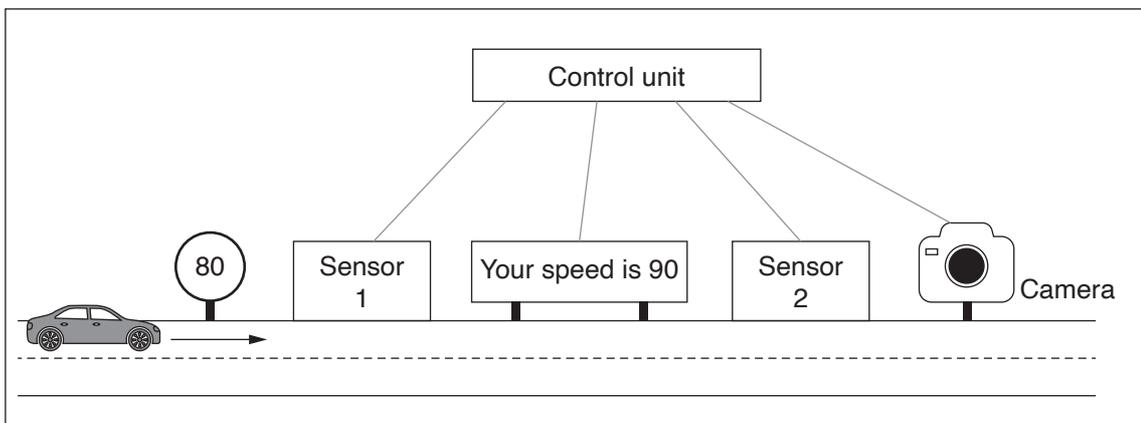
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- (e) A system is used to detect the speed of cars. As shown in the diagram below, Sensor 1 is used to detect the speed of a car. This speed is shown on a roadside display. Sensor 2, a short distance along the road, senses the speed of the car again.

If the car's speed detected at Sensor 2 is over the speed limit, a camera located just past Sensor 2 takes a photo of the car. This generated data is used by the system to fine the driver.

The two sensors, the display unit and the camera are all connected to a control unit. Communication between each of these hardware devices occurs via data streams.



Question 32 continues on page 53

Question 32 (continued)

- (i) If the first sensor detects a speed that is over the limit, the display will show this speed as a flashing red number. Otherwise, the speed is displayed in green without flashing.

2

The data block to be sent from the control unit to the display requires 12 bits:

- 8 bits for the speed to be displayed in kilometres per hour (kph)
- 2 bits for colour
- 2 bits for flashing.

<i>Colour</i>	<i>Flashing</i>
00 – green	00 – not flashing
01 – red	01 – flashing

At the first sensor, a car is detected moving at 90 kph in an 80 kph zone.

Construct the data block sent to the display from the control unit.

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- (ii) Data streams from the sensors are generated when a car is detected, and include date and time information stored in four bytes.

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Design an appropriate data stream, including the header, data block and trailer, to be sent from the sensors to the control unit as a car passes.

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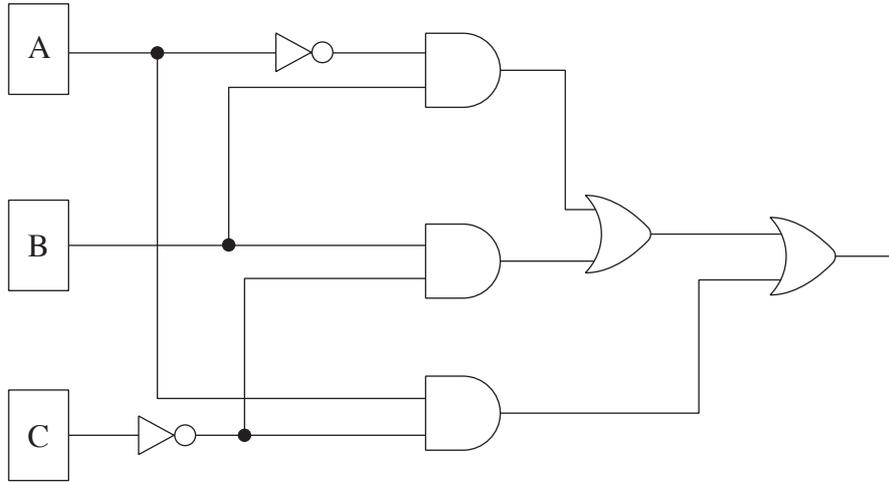
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Question 32 continues on page 54

Question 32 (continued)

(f) Consider the following logic circuit.

4



Design a circuit that produces the same output as the circuit provided, using less than six logic gates.

You may use Boolean algebra and/or a truth table to assist you.

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**Question 32 continues on page 55**

Question 32 (continued)



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