

**ADVANCED GCE
 COMPUTING**

2509

Systems Software Mechanisms, Machine Architecture,
 Database Theory and Programming Paradigms

WEDNESDAY 23 JANUARY 2008

Morning

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the question paper.

Additional materials: No additional materials are required



Candidate Forename

Candidate Surname

Centre Number

Candidate Number

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the boxes above.
- Use blue or black ink. Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.
- Do **not** write outside the box bordering each page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Additional answer space is available on the lined pages at the back of this booklet. Answers on these pages **must** be clearly numbered.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **90** of which 4 marks are allocated to the assessment of the quality of written communication.
- No marks will be awarded for using brand names of software packages or hardware.

FOR EXAMINER'S USE	
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QWC	
TOTAL	

This document consists of **12** printed pages, **3** lined pages and **1** blank page.

Answer **all** questions.

1 Program P and Program Q are both ready for the processor. Program P has a higher priority than Program Q. While processing these programs, interrupts will occur.

(i) Explain the term priority.

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.....[2]

(ii) Explain the term interrupt.

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.....[2]

(iii) Describe how the processor will handle these two programs.

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2 (a) Explain the purpose of a compiler.

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(b) Describe what happens during syntax analysis.

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(c) Instead of a compiler, an interpreter may be used during program development.

Explain how errors are handled by using an interpreter.

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3 (a) Describe Von Neumann architecture.

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(b) (i) State **three** phases of the cycle performed by the processor when running a program.

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3[3]

(ii) Explain the term parallel processing.

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.....[2]

(iii) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of parallel processing.

Advantage
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Disadvantage
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.....[4]

4 (a) The following data are to be stored, in the order given, into a binary sort tree.

dog rabbit cat fish turtle mouse

Draw a diagram to show the tree obtained.

[3]

(b) Show the stages of an insertion sort to put the numbers in ascending numerical order. The routine has been started for you.

Instruction Numbers

	5	6	2	9	3	17	1
No change:	5	6	2	9	3	17	1
Insert 2:	2	5	6	9	3	17	1

[4]

5 When developing a program in a high level language, stepwise refinement may be used.

(a) Explain the term stepwise refinement.

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.....[2]

(b) Explain why procedures may be used in developing a program.

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(c) Explain how a stack is used when a procedure is called by a program.

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PLEASE TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT QUESTION

- 6 (a) The following statements may apply to a data description language (DDL), a data manipulation language (DML) or both.

Tick **one** box in each row to show whether the statement applies to DDL, DML or both.

Statement	DDL only (✓)	DML only (✓)	Both (✓)
It is used with databases.			
It is a high level language.			
It is used to create new tables.			
It can query data.			
It is used to define primary keys.			
It can update existing data.			

[6]

- (b) Explain **two** advantages of using a relational database compared with flat files.

Advantage 1

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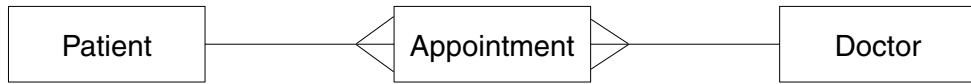
Advantage 2

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(c) A relational database is used to store data in a health centre. Part of the entity-relationship (E-R) diagram is shown.



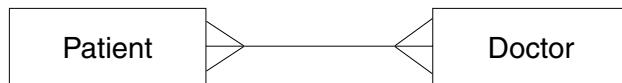
(i) State the type of relationship between Patient and Appointment in the diagram.

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(ii) Describe the use of primary and foreign keys in the Patient and Appointment tables.

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(iii) State **one** reason why the E-R diagram was **not** given as

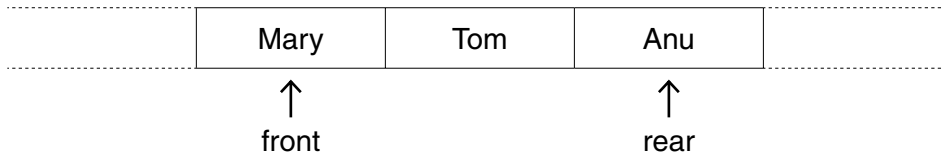


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(iv) State the meaning of the term secondary key and explain **one** example of the use of a secondary key in the Patient table.

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.....[3]

7 (a) The diagram shows a queue containing three data items.



(i) Draw a diagram to show the queue when the data item Jay is added.

[2]

(ii) Draw a diagram to show the queue when **two** data items are removed from the **original** queue.

[1]

(b) (i) State the main feature of a stack data structure.

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.....[1]

- (ii) An algorithm for adding one new data item to a stack could be

```
begin
  if stack_is_full
    then output "Stack full"
  else
    begin
      stack_pointer := stack_pointer + 1
      data (stack_pointer) := new_data
    end
  end
end
```

Using the same style, write an algorithm for removing one data item from a stack and displaying a message of the form "Item removed was ...".

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- (c) (i) State the difference between static and dynamic data structures.

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.....[1]

- (ii) State **two** advantages of using a static data structure.

Advantage 1

.....

Advantage 2

.....[2]

8 Some relationships are defined using a declarative language.

female (jackie) {Jackie is female}
female (emma)
male (omar) {Omar is male}
male (harry)
likes (tom, omar) {Tom likes Omar}
likes (tom, jackie)
likes (jackie, emma)
likes (omar, tom)
likes (emma, harry)

Rules for combining these are

are_friends (X,Y) if
likes (X,Y) and
likes (Y,X)

is_girlfriend (X,Y) if
female (X) and
likes (Y,X)

(a) State why

(i) ? are_friends (tom, omar) = true

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.....
.....[1]

(ii) ? is_girlfriend (emma, harry) = false

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.....[1]

(b) The user wants to find all values where is_girlfriend (X, tom)

(i) State **one** goal.

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.....[1]

(ii) State **one** example of instantiation.

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.....[1]

(iii) Showing how you obtain your answer, list the value(s), if any, that the user should find where

is_girlfriend (X, tom)

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If you use these lined pages to complete the answer to any question, the question number **must** be clearly shown.

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