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Cambridge Career Awards in ICT - Standard

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# INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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## Overall general comments

Again the scheme has gone from strength to strength, with entries rising considerably compared with the same period last year. The award is available in English, Spanish and Greek. The total number of entries in English showed a marked increase, especially at Standard Level and Advanced Level. The entries in Greek, which is only available at Standard Core, have also grown considerably. Spanish papers are also growing in popularity.

This level comprises of a Core module and five Enhancement modules.

There was an overall pass rate of 78% for these modules, as was the pass rate for the core module. The overall pass rate in Greek was 63% (which was only for the core module) and in Spanish it was 75%.

### **Module 5191**

#### **Core**

The most common errors included:

- Errors in sorting the data as specified in the Question Paper
- The failure to include a calculated control in the data manipulation report, or where a calculated control was included it was not the one specified on the Question Paper.
- Errors in page layout with the failure to set margins or column widths as specified.
- The failure to indent the bulleted list by the amount specified on the Question Paper.
- The failure to understand the generic terms serif, and sans-serif. Many candidates tried to locate these as font styles rather than understanding that fonts such as Times New Roman contain short strokes or serifs on each letter, and that sans-serif fonts are without these.
- Errors in searching, either by trying to search using the results of a previous search, rather than all the data, or through errors in the search criteria, or in the selection of the data for the database extract.
- The failure to resize the imported graphic or to text wrap around this graphic.
- Widows and/or orphans were not removed by inserting page breaks.
- Some candidates could not correctly align text, especially when asked to fully justify the body text of a document.

### **Module 5192**

#### **Data Analysis**

There was an overall pass rate of 74% for this module. The most common errors included:

- No printout of the formulae used.
- Poor searching, particularly relating to the use of the Boolean operators AND and OR.
- Lack of summary data sets (pivot tables).
- Not completing all the required tasks in the allocated time.
- The failure to format cells as specified.

**Module 5195**  
**Computer Aided Design**

There was an overall pass rate of 36% for this module. This figure is based upon a low number of entries, in which one large batch of entries was very weak. Few of the candidates completed all the required printouts in the time allocated. Other errors included:

- The failure to use standard hatching in the sectional view.
- The failure to use dimensioning.
- The failure to show all hidden detail.
- Errors in the isometric projection, particularly related to not hiding lines.
- Isometric views which did not match the third angle projections.

**Module 5196**  
**Business Charts**

There was an overall pass rate of 88% for this module. The most common errors included:

- The failure to add a second data series to an existing line graph.
- The failure to add a second y axis to a line graph.
- The failure to adjust the maximum and/or minimum values of a value axis.
- The failure to select the correct data series, especially where the data series do not lie in adjacent rows or columns.

**Module 5197**  
**Website Authoring**

There was an overall pass rate of 56% for this module. This was an improvement from last year. The most common errors included:

- The failure to print out the HTML code for the web pages.
- The failure to open a web page in a new window with a given name.
- The failure to change a graphics file from one format to another, for example from a jpeg to gif format to reduce file size and hence download time.
- The failure to define (and print out) a stylesheet which contained the styles specified in the Question Paper, or having created the stylesheet attaching it every web page.
- The failure to place graphics and resize them as specified in the Question Paper.

**Module 5198**  
**Presentation Authoring**

There was an overall pass rate of 90% for this module. The most common errors included:

- The failure to print notes pages as specified in the Question Paper.
- The failure to insert an arrow as specified.
- The failure to generate a chart within the presentation software.
- The failure to add bullet points (or remove them) as specified in the Question Paper.
- The failure to insert the required graphic image/s in the right place on the right slides.