



General Certificate of Education

Information and Communication Technology 6520

Unit 1 Information: Nature, Role and Context

Report on the Examination

2008 examination – January series

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Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

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Question 1

Many candidates gained high marks on this question. Some weaker candidates gave non-ICT related examples and therefore were unable to gain marks for their examples.

Question 2

Most candidates were able to give three personal qualities that are required by someone working at an ICT support desk and also were able to give valid reasons for why the manager would want them to have those qualities. Better candidates related their answers directly to the type of tasks carried out by an ICT support desk.

Question 3

Good answers would relate the characteristics stated in the answer to the information required by the sales manager. Some candidates incorrectly gave answers about the characteristics of good data which could not gain credit.

Question 4

Some candidates incorrectly gave answers relating to the Internet although it specifically stated in the question to state one use of ICT (other than the Internet). Many candidates were able to state an ICT use for each area but were unable to give the benefit of that use.

Question 5

It was pleasing to see that most candidates explained that internal threats occurred from within the organisation by employees and that external threats came from outside the organisation and were able to give examples. Many candidates gave a measure to protect the information system from both types of threats but some were unable to describe the measures in sufficient detail to gain full marks.

Question 6

Many candidates do not understand the Computer Misuse Act and mistakenly wrote answers about intending or not intending to gain unauthorised access to computer material. Most candidates gained at least one of the two marks in part (b).

Question 7

Most candidates gained at least half of the marks available in answer to this question, giving good answers for part (a). Some gave three ways of communicating that the Internet supports, but were unable to expand their answer. In part (c) some candidates confused (ii) and (iii) and gave a disadvantage to the company in (iii) and in (ii) explained why the device was a good choice for the employee.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.