

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Friday 19 May 2023 – Afternoon

GCSE (9–1) Computer Science

J277/01 Computer Systems

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes
plus your additional time allowance**

**DO NOT USE:
a calculator**

Please write clearly in black ink.

Centre number

Candidate number

First name(s) _____

Last name _____

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink. You can use an HB pencil, but only for graphs and diagrams.

Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If you need extra space use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Answer ALL the questions.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 80.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

1 Computers represent data in binary form.

(a) Tick (✓) ONE box to identify the statement about binary that is true. [1]

Binary digits can only be the values 0, 1 and 2

The left-most bit of a binary integer has the smallest value

Binary is used because computers are made of switches that can only be on or off

The smallest whole number that can be stored in 8 bits is the number 1

(b) Complete the table by writing the missing denary, 8-bit binary or hexadecimal values. [4]

Denary	8-bit binary	Hexadecimal
	00000111	7
49		31
	01100110	66
244	11110100	

(c) Tick (✓) ONE box to identify the largest file size. [1]

2 000 000 bytes

2300 KB

200 MB

0.1 GB

(d) Tick (✓) TWO boxes to identify the two file sizes that are equal to each other. [1]

4 500 000 bytes

450 KB

4.5 MB

0.45 GB

- (e) Complete the binary addition by adding these two 8-bit binary numbers. [2]

Show all your working.

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \\ + 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \\ \hline \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- (f) Identify the binary shift that has been applied to the 8-bit binary number 10110000 to get the result 10000000.

_____ [2]

2 A student is performing a range of actions on the internet using their computer.

(a) A range of protocols are used for the transmission of data by the student's computer, and the web servers they are accessing.

(i) Complete the table by identifying the most appropriate protocol for each of the tasks the student is performing. [4]

Task	Protocol
Requesting to view a news webpage from a web server	
Entering a username and password to access their bank account	
Downloading a text document from a web server	
Checking for new emails in their inbox	

(ii) Some protocols have layers.

Give TWO reasons why protocols have layers.

1 _____

2 _____

[2]

(b) The student's computer is part of their home Local Area Network (LAN). The LAN currently only has wired connections.

(i) One characteristic of a LAN is that they are set up over a small geographical area.

Give ONE other characteristic of a LAN.

_____ [1]

(ii) Describe the benefits of the student changing their home LAN to include wireless connections.

_____ [4]

(iii) State TWO drawbacks of changing their home LAN to include wireless connections.

1 _____

2 _____

[2]

3 Binary numbers can represent different forms of data.

(a) One form of data is characters.

Complete the description of how computers represent characters in binary using the given list of terms. Not all terms will be used. [5]

2	4	8	9	16
32	256	71	72	74
76	78	80	81	
all	different	identical	one	
repeated	similar	some	unique	

A character set stores _____ of the characters that the computer can represent.

Each character is given a _____

binary code. Lower-case and upper-case letters in a character set are given _____

binary codes.

One example of a character set is ASCII. This character set uses _____ bits for each character. If the code value for the character 'F' is 70 then the code value for the character 'L' is _____ .

(b) Binary numbers can also represent images.

The table shows the colours that are used in an image and the binary value for each colour.

Colour	Binary value
Red	0000
Green	0010
Blue	1000
Purple	0110

The metadata states that the image is 3 pixels wide by 4 pixels high.

The data in the file starts in the top left of the image and goes from left-to-right, top-to-bottom.

(i) State what is meant by METADATA in an image file.

_____ [1]

(ii) The binary data stored for the image is given:

000000000110100000101000011001100110000000101000

A grid is given for the image. Each square is one pixel.

Write the name of the colour in each square that the pixel will show for this image. [2]

- (iii) A colour depth of 4 is used. This means 4 bits are used to store the colour for each pixel.

State the maximum number of different colours that can be represented in 4-bits.

_____ [1]

- (iv) The colour depth is increased to 2 bytes.

State TWO effects that this change can have on the image.

1 _____

2 _____

[2]

- (c) A student has a text document and an image file that need to be compressed separately.

The student needs to reduce the file size of both of these files as much as possible.

- (i) Identify the most suitable type of compression for the TEXT document. Justify your choice.

Type of compression _____

Justification _____

[3]

- (ii) Identify the most suitable type of compression for the IMAGE file. Justify your choice.

Type of compression _____

Justification _____

[3]

4 (a) Tick (✓) ONE OR MORE boxes on each row to identify all of the methods that can help to prevent each threat. [4]

Threat	Anti-malware	Penetration testing	Encryption	Firewall
Spyware				
Brute-force attack				
Data interception				
SQL injection				

(b) Name AND describe ONE threat to a computer system that is not given in QUESTION 4(a).

Threat _____

Description _____

[3]

5 An artist has a computer that they use to create images.

Their computer has both hardware and software.

(a) The hardware includes primary and secondary storage.

(i) Explain why a computer needs both primary AND secondary storage.

[2]

(ii) Give ONE example of a secondary storage device that the artist's computer will have AND an example of the data that will be stored on it.

Secondary storage device _____

Example data _____

[2]

(iii) The computer has Virtual Memory (VM).

The table has four statements about VM. Not all of the statements are correct.

Tick (✓) the TRUE column for the statements that are correct.

Re-write any statement that is incorrect in the FALSE column by changing the statement to make it true. [4]

Statement	True (✓)	False – rewrite the statement to make it true
A section of primary storage is partitioned to act as virtual memory		
Data from ROM is transferred into VM		
VM is needed when RAM is full, or nearly full		
Data from VM is transferred back to secondary storage when needed		

- (b) The computer has an operating system and utility software.

State the need for utility software in a computer.

[1]

- (c) The artist uploads images to be displayed on a website. This is a client-server relationship.

- (i) Identify the computer that is acting as the client in this scenario AND justify your choice.

Client computer _____

Justification _____

[3]

- (ii) Identify the computer that is acting as the server in this scenario AND justify your choice.

Server computer _____

Justification _____

[3]

(d) The artist is working with a programmer on the development of a new piece of software.

The software will allow users to edit images on devices such as mobile telephones.

They are considering releasing the software as open source instead of proprietary.

(i) Describe TWO benefits to the artist and programmer of releasing the software as proprietary.

1 _____

2 _____

[4]

(ii) Describe ONE benefit to the users of releasing the software as open source.

[2]

7 A car comes with many embedded systems, for example parking sensors.

Identify ONE other embedded system that could be found in a car and explain why this is an embedded system.

Example embedded system _____

Explanation _____

[3]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

