



General Certificate in Secondary Education

**Design & Technology
(Electronic Products) 3541/3551
Full or Short Course**

Short Course (3551) Higher Tier

Report on the Examination

2007 examination - June series

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General

Centres are to be congratulated on their preparation of candidates for the examination with most adapting well to the restriction on the use of colour in the design questions. The majority of candidates also completed their answers within the space provided making the task of marking more straightforward.

Short Course (3551) Higher Tier

Question 1

This question was well answered by the majority of candidates as they showed a good understanding of this aspect of the subject.

Question 2

(a) Whilst most candidates could add the timing potential divider in section (i) only a few were successful with part (ii).

The quality of drawing mark can be improved by using a ruler, drawing in proportion and showing clear connections.

- (b) Was very poorly done with few candidates showing an understanding of the functioning of a monostable.
- (c) In contrast candidates showed a good understanding of the modelling processes and therefore scored well.

Question 3

- (a) A mixed response to the calculation but most candidates made an attempt with approximately one third getting full marks.
- (b) Very few candidates were able to draw a buzzer symbol and connect it correctly.

Question 4

- (a) Was well answered by the majority of candidates.
- (b) Was well answered by the majority of candidates.
- (c) The design section was also well attempted although too many candidates appear to have rushed this section consequently losing marks for their quality of communication.
- (d) Saw many candidates just evaluate their design without any reference to commercial production methods.

Question 5

This question was well attempted by candidates with the majority using a flow chart approach. Candidates frequently lost marks through not referring to the input to the PIC but to the wand and track touching. It is important that candidates do not just rewrite the instructions in the questions but actually convert to programming commands which refer to the input and outputs.

Question 6

- (a) Was well attempted with all candidates scoring highly.
- (b) Candidates also showed a good understanding of the issues around packaging.

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