

Examiners' Report
June 2013

GCSE ICT 5IT01 01

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Introduction

This is the sixth time that candidates have sat examinations for this unit, which requires them to explore how current and emerging digital technologies impact on the lives of individuals, organisations and society. This is an untiered paper that has been specifically designed so that easier questions are more prevalent earlier in the paper, becoming progressively more difficult later on. This paper has been designed to be accessible, so that candidates of all ability ranges will find questions that are both challenging and interesting throughout.

Candidates are introduced to a scenario, within which they can contextualise their responses. Additionally, candidates will find that command words are used consistently in the paper to indicate the type of response expected. It is hoped that candidates will demonstrate the knowledge, understanding and skills required to be competent users of ICT.

Successful candidates often gave more detailed responses and, increasingly, are providing more than just simple statements, including examples and reasons where expansions or explanations were required. In the extended questions, candidates demonstrated a better understanding of the requirement to analyse, evaluate, make reasoned judgements and present conclusions. Candidates should develop their use of subject specific language and should make better use of the Technology Update document, which is published every Spring to clarify what technology they are expected to learn about.

Question 1 (b)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question, usually for mentioning that you can see/try on items in a shop.

(b) Alex goes to a high street shop to buy a home entertainment system.

Give **one** advantage of shopping in the high street rather than online.

(1)

He is able to see and test the product before he buys it.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

An exemplary response. 1 mark

(b) Alex goes to a high street shop to buy a home entertainment system.

Give **one** advantage of shopping in the high street rather than online.

(1)

Do not have to wait for it to deliver.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Although not exemplary, this response provides enough to gain the mark.

Question 1 (c)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question, usually for stating '3G'. The most common incorrect answers were 'Bluetooth' and 'GPS'. Some candidates answered 'WiFi', despite of the fact that the question stated: 'Alex cannot use the shop's WiFi to access the internet'.

(c) Alex cannot use the shop's WiFi to access the internet.

Name **one** type of mobile phone connectivity that Alex could use to access the internet from his smartphone.

(1)

3G



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

A typical response that gained the mark.

(c) Alex cannot use the shop's WiFi to access the internet.

Name **one** type of mobile phone connectivity that Alex could use to access the internet from his smartphone.

(1)

Personal hotspot



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Although a 'personal hotspot' could be used to connect to the internet, it is not a type of connectivity and those candidates that responded in this way did not gain the mark.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Make sure you read the question carefully.

Question 1 (e) (i)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question.

(e) Alex listens to internet radio on his home entertainment system.

(i) Give **one** advantage to Alex of using internet radio, rather than FM/AM radio.

(1)

because its Better connection



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical response that did not gain the mark.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should know the difference between the key terms 'connection' and 'signal'. Candidates should also know the causes and effects of signal degradation, such as interference and distance.

(e) Alex listens to internet radio on his home entertainment system.

(i) Give **one** advantage to Alex of using internet radio, rather than FM/AM radio.

(1)

He can listen to more radio stations that are out of FM/AM range.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical response that gained the mark.

Question 1 (e) (ii)

Most candidates gained both marks for this question. In some cases, candidates simply reworded their first response and so did not gain the second mark.

(ii) Alex records the radio show. He wants to transfer the recording to his laptop.
Give **two** ways, other than WiFi, of transferring the recording. (2)

1 He can burn a copy onto a DVD or
Disk and copy it onto his laptop.

2 He can transfer it onto a USB stick
and then onto his laptop



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This response gained both marks, by providing two different ways of transferring the recording.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

As in this example, candidates should try to give two different ways when asked to give/state 'two' of something.

(ii) Alex records the radio show. He wants to transfer the recording to his laptop.
Give **two** ways, other than WiFi, of transferring the recording. (2)

1 Bluetooth

2 Cable



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This response gained 1 mark for 'Bluetooth'. However, the 2nd response 'Cable' is not specific enough to gain the second mark.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should use subject-specific language in their responses.

Question 1 (f)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question, usually by naming 'Copyright', which was deemed just enough to gain the mark.

Question 1 (g)

Many candidates gained only 1 mark for this question.

(g) Alex can store recordings locally or online.

One advantage of local storage is that he can access recordings without an internet connection.

Give **two** other advantages of using **local** storage rather than online storage.

(2)

1 He has it stored on a disk

2 Its local, so it near to you.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This example is typical of incorrect responses.

(g) Alex can store recordings locally or online.

One advantage of local storage is that he can access recordings without an internet connection.

Give **two** other advantages of using **local** storage rather than online storage.

(2)

1 There's less risk of the stored information being looked at by hackers.

2 Local storage is kept under your protection whereas online storage requires another company to keep hold of information



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gained both marks.

Question 1 (h)

Most candidates gained both marks for this question.

(h) Alex takes his old home entertainment system to the shop for recycling.

Give **two** reasons why the shop offers to do this.

(2)

1 To re-sell parts

2 To help the environment



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gained both marks.

(h) Alex takes his old home entertainment system to the shop for recycling.

Give **two** reasons why the shop offers to do this.

(2)

1 Helps the environment by recycle recycling it.

2 less environmental hazards.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The first mark is awarded for the first response. No mark is awarded for the second response, as it is a repeat of the first.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should give discrete responses when asked to give more than one reason/example.

Question 2 (a) (ii)

Almost half of the cohort of candidates gained the mark for this question. Few responses were awarded for 'Improved/Enhanced/Better/More positive user experience'. Most responses gained the mark for 'faster/quicker download/load'.

Question 2 (a) (iii)

Most candidates gained one of the two marks available for this question, usually for stating 'viruses'.

(iii) Online hackers are a threat to the data on Karen's smartphone.
List **two** other threats to Karen's data. (2)

1. Viruses

2. Spyware



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical response that gained both marks.

(iii) Online hackers are a threat to the data on Karen's smartphone.
List **two** other threats to Karen's data. (2)

1. fraudsters

2. Phishers



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical example of a response that did not gain marks.

Question 2 (b)

Most candidates did not gain both marks for this question.

Question 2 (c)

Most candidates gained both marks for this question, usually for listing 'Social networks' and 'Blogs'.

(c) A forum is a type of online community.
List **two** other types of online community. (2)

1 Blogs

2 Social Networking Sites



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

An exemplary response that gained both marks.

(c) A forum is a type of online community.
List **two** other types of online community. (2)

1 Facebook

2 ~~Twitter~~ Blog Twitter



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Although this response lists two different type of online community, both responses are proprietary names and so only show enough understanding to gain 1 of the 2 available marks.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should use subject specific language in their responses.

Question 2 (d) (i)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question. The majority of candidates stated that, by registering, Karen could then post herself. However some gave the advantages of registering with shopping sites and mentioned that websites track activity to make purchasing quicker.

(d) Karen registers with the forum.

(i) Give **one** benefit to **Karen** of registering with the forum.

(1)

She will be able to add reviews
and comment on others reviews.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical correct response gaining the mark.

(d) Karen registers with the forum.

(i) Give **one** benefit to **Karen** of registering with the forum.

(1)

She can see other peoples
views towards the film



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Some candidates incorrectly stated that Karen could not read posts until she had registered, as in this response, and therefore did not gain the mark.

Question 2 (d) (ii)

Most candidates gained all 3 marks. Some candidates gave Age and Date of Birth and were only awarded a maximum of 1 mark for those two repeated responses. Some candidates did not apply their response to the given context.

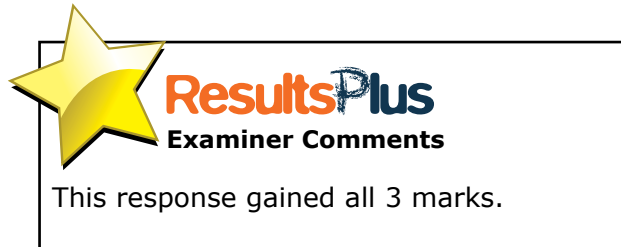
(ii) Karen is asked to provide her name when registering with the forum.

List **three** other pieces of information Karen might be asked to provide. (3)

1. Email address

2. Age

3. Gender



Question 2 (e)

Many candidates stated one of: 'users can scan do not have to insert their card/enter PIN', but few were awarded a second mark.

Explain how NFC speeds up the payment process.

(2)

it is a contactless payment so you don't have to enter a pin number making the process of paying quicker.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

An exemplary response. 2 marks

Explain how NFC speeds up the payment process.

(2)

because it uses wifi and local connections making the process faster



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Many candidates mentioned WiFi in their response, showing that they had not understood the technology given in the question and had, perhaps, incorrectly interpreted the symbol shown in the image. No marks awarded.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should be familiar with the Technology Update document, which is published every year.

Question 3 (a) (i)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question by mentioning trip hazards.

Some candidates thought headphones would be needed because of speakers' loudness and proximity, therefore reducing deafness by using wireless speakers. Often, incorrect responses mentioned the prevention of electrocution or fire risks.

3 Karen and Alex are using their new home entertainment system.

(a) The home entertainment system uses wireless speakers.

(i) Give **one** way this improves the family's health and safety.

(1)

Wires will not be needed
therefore this prevents tripping over them.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical response that gained the mark.

3 Karen and Alex are using their new home entertainment system.

(a) The home entertainment system uses wireless speakers.

(i) Give **one** way this improves the family's health and safety.

(1)

~~less~~ less wires are being used, which reduces the risk
of shockings.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical example of an incorrect response, that refers to reducing the risk of electric shock. No mark.

Question 3 (a) (ii)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question, usually for correctly identifying that Wi-Fi has a greater range, requires more bandwidth or has higher transfer speeds. However, some candidates did not gain the mark as they showed a poor understanding of the difference between a 'signal' and a 'connection' or simply stated 'faster' or 'better', without qualification.

(ii) Give **one** benefit of using WiFi, rather than Bluetooth, to carry the wireless speaker signal.

WiFi is better for connection and its
uses faster than bluetooth. (1)



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response does not provide enough to gain the mark.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

'Faster' is not enough to gain the mark. Candidates should state why/how something is 'faster'.

(ii) Give **one** benefit of using WiFi, rather than Bluetooth, to carry the wireless speaker signal.

(1)

Wi-Fi has more range than bluetooth, so
you can use the speaker when they're quite far.



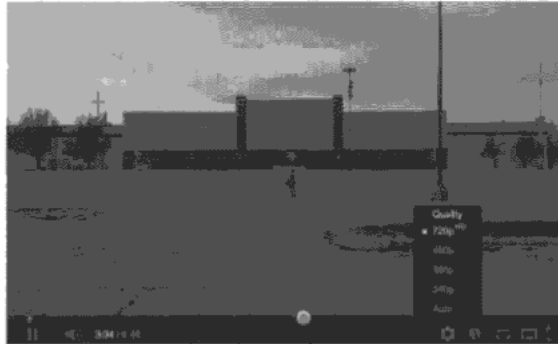
ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gained the mark.

Question 3 (c)

Most candidates did not gain marks for this question. Many candidates mentioned bandwidth and latency, without showing any linked understanding. Therefore they were able to gain one mark only.

(c) Alex watches videos online in high definition.



(Source: Bag to the Bone © TheSchwartzCaster,
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3VP1iczsgM> (2012))

Explain why Alex is also given the option to watch videos in standard definition.

(2)

Well if Alex's bandwidth is low he can then put the video on standard definition to prevent the video from buffering. This is because less data is having to be transferred.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A linked response that shows understanding and gains both marks.

Explain why Alex is also given the option to watch videos in standard definition.

(2)

Alex may have lower bandwidth capabilities and hi-def may require too much, lower quality reduces buffering and transfers less information.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Although not as coherent as the previous response, this candidate has shown just enough understanding to be awarded both marks.

Question 3 (e)

Most candidates gained the mark for this question. A significant number did not gain the mark, as they expressed themselves poorly.

(e) State **one** benefit to **video companies** of using the internet to distribute videos. (1)

They do not have to pay for the CD or case with every copy.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a typical response that gained the mark.

(e) State **one** benefit to **video companies** of using the internet to distribute videos. (1)

They have a wider audience of people who watch their videos so they become more popular.



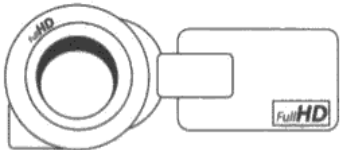

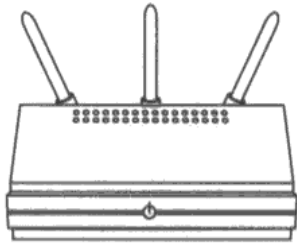
ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Another typically correct response.

Question 3 (g) (i)

Most candidates gained all 3 marks for this question.

(g) Alex wants to add a video to his blog using these devices.

Digital camcorder	Laptop	Router
Take vid 		
Firewire ✓ WIFI (X) ADSL X	Firewire ✓ WIFI (✓) ADSL X	Firewire X WIFI (✓) ADSL ✓?

Handwritten annotations: An arrow points from the camcorder's Firewire port to the laptop's Firewire port with the text "Similar Thunderbolt". A double-headed arrow between the laptop and router's WiFi ports is labeled "download".

(i) Describe how he would do this, identifying the devices and connectivity he would use.

(3)

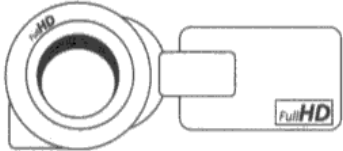

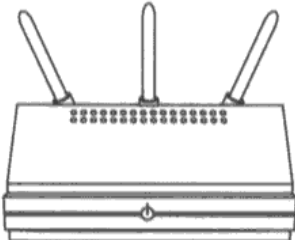
Firstly, Alex would plug the firewire cable into both the camcorder and laptop and then transfer the files through the wire and onto the laptop. Alex would then use the Wifi, of which the signal is transmitted through the router, in order to upload the video onto the internet and onto his blog.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gained all 3 marks.

(g) Alex wants to add a video to his blog using these devices.

Digital camcorder	Laptop	Router
		
Firewire ✓	Firewire ✓	Firewire ✗
WiFi ✗	WiFi ✓	WiFi ✓
ADSL ✗	ADSL ✗	ADSL ✓

(i) Describe how he would do this, identifying the devices and connectivity he would use.

(3)

First of all he would transfer the video ~~using~~ from the camera to the laptop via transfer cable then switch WiFi on to access the internet to put it on his blog.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gains 1 mark for 'transfer the video from the camera to the laptop'. There is no mention of the connectivity used to do this; 'cable' is not enough. Although the response mentions 'WiFi', there is no mention of 'router' and so no further mark was awarded.

Question 3 (g) (ii)

Most candidates did not gain marks for this question. Linked responses were rarely seen that stated the type of service and how it would use data.

(ii) Alex adds GPS data to his video before he uploads it to his blog.

Describe how other online services could make use of this data.

(2)

Other online services could use this data
to locate Alex. Such as google maps can
use this data to position Alex on a map.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Although this response identifies a type of online service, it does not correctly link that with a use of the data stored within a file.
1 mark

Question 3 (h)

Most candidates gained 1 mark for this question, which revealed a wide range of understanding of online applications amongst candidates. Many candidates could not articulate the difference between online applications and locally installed software, or were unable to articulate a coherent advantage or disadvantage. Many responses did not gain marks as they focused on security or cost.

(i) Give **one advantage** of using online applications to edit videos, rather than locally installed software.

(1)

The online applications do not take up storage space.

(ii) Give **two disadvantages** of using online applications to edit videos, rather than locally installed software.

(2)

- 1 Internet is needed to access the online applications.
- 2 The online applications may run slowly if there is not a strong internet connection.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This response clearly articulates enough to gain all 3 marks.

(i) Give **one advantage** of using online applications to edit videos, rather than locally installed software.

(1)

You don't have to use your ~~own~~ storage capacity.

(ii) Give **two disadvantages** of using online applications to edit videos, rather than locally installed software.

(2)

- 1 it can be ~~slow~~ slow to edit
- 2 You have limited options



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This response shows enough understanding to gain all 3 marks.

Question 4 (c) (i)

Most candidates gained all 3 marks for this question, with nearly all candidates identifying some suspicious features of the email. Candidates did not gain credit when they did not focus on the content of the email but focused instead on what could be, for example the name and logo of the bank that was omitted. Where marks were lost it was often because answers were not explained in enough detail to gain credit, often just stating a word in the email, rather than reasoning why that word may be of concern.

(c) Alex receives this email.

From: customer_payments@fr33mail.com
Subject: Canceled transaction - Open within 5 mins of receiving
Date: May 24 2013 11:30:33 GMT+03:00
To: Account Holder

Dear Account Holder,
I need to confirm your account details. The transfer (ID:869118552344), sent from your account, was canceled by The Payment Authorization Center.

The account details on file are:
Account Number: 8621362 Bank Code: 78-26-54

Rejected transfer	
Transaction ID:	86911855
Reason of rejection	See details in the report below
Transaction Report	Report 86911855.pdf.exe (PDF)

13150 Sunset Drive, Suite 1000 Lickley, CA 20171, USA
2013 - The Payment Authorization Center.

(i) Identify **three** items in the email that may cause Alex to be concerned.

(3)

1. The email address Domain is coming from a Non official Domain
2. The e-mail is addressed to "Dear Account holder" Not to Alex
3. The file extension of the 'PDF' is Really an executable program.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response gained all 3 marks.

(c) Alex receives this email.

From: customer_payments@fr33mail.com
Subject: Canceled transaction - Open within 5 mins of receiving
Date: May 24 2013 11:30:33 GMT+03:00
To: Account Holder

Dear Account Holder,
I need to confirm your account details. The transfer (ID:869118552344), sent from your account, was canceled by The Payment Authorization Center.

The account details on file are:
Account Number: 8621362 Bank Code: 78-26-54

Rejected transfer	
Transaction ID:	86911855
Reason of rejection	See details in the report below
Transaction Report	Report 86911855.pdf.exe (PDF)

13150 Sunset Drive, Suite 1000 Lickley, CA 20171, USA
2013 - The Payment Authorization Center.

(i) Identify **three** items in the email that may cause Alex to be concerned.

(3)

- 1 Banks don't have e-mail accounts
- 2 An unknown person has his bank account details
- 3 An unknown person has his e-mail address



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response is not focused enough to gain any marks.

Question 4 (c) (ii)

Most candidates gained both marks for this question, correctly identifying how to react to such an email. Some candidates did not show understanding, by suggesting opening the attachment or contacting the Authorization Centre. A few candidates were not awarded both marks as they made a reference to "delete/ignore /don't respond" on multiple occasions. A misconception amongst some candidates was that the account should be cancelled altogether as a result, which was deemed too extreme and did not gain a mark.

(ii) Give **two** actions Alex should take after receiving this email.

(2)

1 Scan the email to check for viruses

2 Delete it and tell his bank.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

An exemplary response that gained both marks.

(ii) Give **two** actions Alex should take after receiving this email.

(2)

1 Email them back asking for more on appointment at the bank to sort out the situation

2 Email them asking why they've sent him details and why they need confirmation, including telling them not write his bank details because they could be seen by anyone - just in case



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Some candidates misunderstood this question and suggested it was appropriate to respond to the email. No marks.

Question 4 (d)

Not all candidates gained the mark for this question, because many responses stated that email is cheaper than SMS.

Question 4e

Most candidates gained 2 of the available 4 marks for this question. Candidates often either gained 2 marks for linking internet access with buying goods or 2 marks for linking a cause with a constraint.

(e) Alex buys goods online.

Explain how the 'digital divide' affects some people's ability to do this. (4)

Some things that you see and buy on the internet, is not always the same when you get the items face to face. The item could be something completely different from what you wanted to buy. This makes some people rethink if they would want to buy something online.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A number of responses indicated that the candidates had not understood the question. 0 marks

Question 4 (f)

Most candidates gained 3 of the available 6 marks for this question. Candidates often did not gain marks because their responses strayed away from financial services and started discussing online shopping or environmental benefits. Many candidates took the words 'reasoned argument' to mean that they had to look at arguments for and against and then draw a supportive conclusion. Therefore, too much emphasis was often placed on the negatives.

*(f) 'ICT has improved banking and other financial services.'

Make a reasoned argument to support this statement.

(6)

Online banking allows people to access and check their accounts 24/7, therefore this saves customers' time rather than when queuing or waiting for something to process. Also, if people live far away from a bank it saves them time and money rather than travelling to check their account. ICT has also improved banking when buying things online, features such as Paypal and other secure ~~the~~ payment checkouts allow customers to buy products with ease and quickly. ICT also allows people to now compare prices for things such as ~~ea~~ insurance ^{and} loans which saves people money and reduces the time instead of calling numerous companies to get a quote. Banks can attract more customers with them now being able to apply for cards, loans and ~~send~~ transfer money to other accounts online. The increasing features for banking and other financial services through ICT is making life quicker and easier for the companies and their customers.

(Total for Question 4 = 18 marks)



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response provides examples of improvements in both banking and other financial services and they are factually accurate. The response meets the Level 3 descriptor for content. The argument is reasoned and the QWC (Quality of Written Communication) meets the descriptor for Level 3, so no mark reduction was necessary. 6 marks were awarded.

*(f) 'ICT has improved banking and other financial services.'

Make a reasoned argument to support this statement.

(6)

ICT has certainly made banking easier and more convenient to use with advances such as online banking services, paying via NFC, not to mention the vast network of computers used by the banks to keep track of all the loans and investments they issue. With the advent of the internet and widespread instantaneous communication in the form of Email, SMS etc banks are able to obtain a much wider customer base as they no longer need to live near a bank (they can do it all online). This easier communication also allows for banks to analyse the financial situations in different countries and can adjust their strategies accordingly. The easier access should also drive rates down as greater competition between banks means prices will have to stay ^{relatively} low to be competitive and with price-comparison sites it is now even easier to find the best deal for you. Stock Markets also use advanced computers to predict rises and falls in the values of stocks as well as allowing ~~trader~~ traders to sell stocks almost instantaneously, not giving them a greater advantage over traders using traditional methods, though some do see this as unfair.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

Another exemplary response. 6 marks.

Question 5 (b)

Most candidates were able to gain 1 of the available 2 marks for this question. Answers were not always explained fully and candidates frequently focused on the fact that the tablet is portable in their response, even though a laptop is also portable.

(b) Henry uses apps on a tablet computer.



(Source: adapted from © Lisa Yarost, http://www.flickr.com/photos/lisa_yarost/2159594350/sizes/m/in/photostream/ (2008))

Explain why tablet computers may be easier to use than laptops for young children.

(2)

they are a lot lighter
and smaller, therefore, easier
to hold for them.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response provides a linked response, the feature with the associated benefit, and gains both marks.

(b) Henry uses apps on a tablet computer.



(Source: adapted from © Lisa Yarost, http://www.flickr.com/photos/lisa_yarost/2159594350/sizes/m/in/photostream/ (2008))

Explain why tablet computers may be easier to use than laptops for young children.

(2)

Because they're light weight and can easily be carried around (portable). Also they have ~~no~~ buttons on the touch screen, so children can mess about with buttons.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

Although the features are not linked with appropriate associated benefits, both marks were awarded in this case, as two discrete features are mentioned in the response.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should approach 'explain' questions, giving the associated benefit of the mentioned feature.

Question 5 (c)

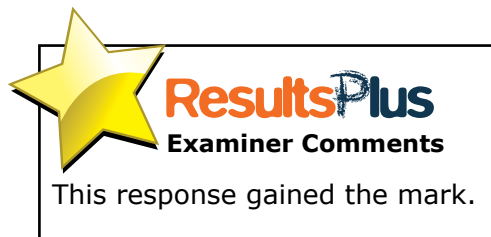
Most candidates gained the mark for this question, with nearly all candidates correctly suggesting adding a password to the account. Where marks were lost it was for misunderstanding the question and explaining how the transaction could be cancelled after it had been made. Other incorrect answers included 'filter' or 'age filter' and setting pop-up messages to be displayed.

(c) Henry buys an app by accident.

State **one** action Alex and Karen could take on their online app shop account to prevent this from happening.

(1)

Log out of the account when Henry / Jacob are on the tablet.

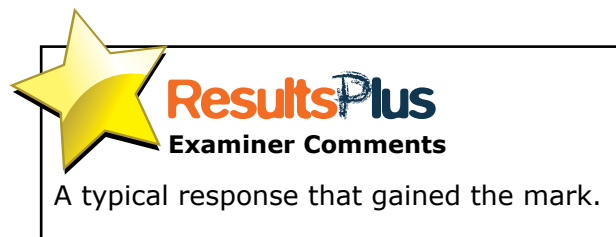


(c) Henry buys an app by accident.

State **one** action Alex and Karen could take on their online app shop account to prevent this from happening.

(1)

Set a password.



Question 5 (d)

Most candidates gained 1 of the available 2 marks for this question. Many responses included two or more effects, but no causes.

(d) Karen limits the time that Henry and Jacob spend using digital devices.

Explain why Karen does this.

(2)

So that they don't have RSI or get eye strain from looking at the screen too long.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response gains both marks for the linked response related to eye strain (effect) from looking at the screen too long (cause).



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates need to make sure they approach open questions by responding with linked responses. In this case by explaining the associated impact of the mentioned health risk.

(d) Karen limits the time that Henry and Jacob spend using digital devices.

Explain why Karen does this.

(2)

To prevent them from straining their eyes by looking at the screen too much or getting RSI from ~~a~~ repeating the same actions.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response demonstrates enough understanding to be awarded both marks.

Question 5 (e)

Few candidates gained marks for this question. Many responses simply restated the question along the lines of 'consoles are designed for games and therefore have better graphics, whereas tablets are multifunctional.'

(e) Alex plays games on a console.

Explain why game graphics are often better on a games console than a tablet computer.

(2)

The screen is bigger, making the graphics larger and clearer to see.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Candidates often did not gain marks by relating their response to a display screen, rather than a console/tablet. No marks

(e) Alex plays games on a console.

Explain why game graphics are often better on a games console than a tablet computer.

(2)

Because gaming consoles have graphic cards which maximises resolution and TV's are required for gaming console which gives higher resolution.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The first part of this response gained both marks. The second part of the response would not gain any marks as it is related to a TV rather than a console, as required in the question. 2 marks overall

Question 5f

Candidates often did not gain marks for this question. Incorrect responses often related to: copy and sell illegal copies as their own creations therefore with copyright legislation the gamers are protected from viruses and poor quality copies of games.

(f) Explain how copyright law benefits 'gamers'.

(3)

If games could be copied then the people would just buy it, copy it and sell lots so barely any money goes back to the game companies meaning the companies and industry would go bankrupt and wouldn't be able to afford to make new games meaning there wouldn't be any more games. So the copyright law benefits gamers by giving the game companies the profit they deserve to make more games.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

An exemplary response that gains all 3 marks.

Question 5 (g)

Most candidates did not gain the mark for this question, as they often did not demonstrate understanding of the term 'transactional'; instead, many candidates related their responses to 'financial transactions'.

(g) Games often display adverts that use transactional data.

State **one** benefit to **advertisers** of using transactional data.

(1)

It allows them to see who is clicking on the adverts, such that they can focus
Marketing.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical response that gained the mark.

(g) Games often display adverts that use transactional data.

State **one** benefit to **advertisers** of using transactional data.

(1)

~~They~~ They persuade you and will
get a lot more people seeing
the adverts



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A typical example of a response that did not gain a mark.

Question 5 (h)

Most candidates gained 3 of the available 6 marks for this question. Many candidates were able to identify a range of features/uses with supporting reasons. Top mark band candidates in particular demonstrated sound knowledge of the range of tasks it was possible to complete and the use of the different technologies within the devices. Many candidates took the words 'reasoned argument' to mean that they had to look at arguments for and against and then draw a supportive conclusion. Therefore, too much emphasis was often placed on the negatives.

*(h) 'The increased availability of mobile digital devices has had a positive impact on how young people use their free time.'

Make a reasoned argument to support this statement.

(6)

~~Increased availability of mobile digital devices has had a positive impact on how young people use their free time. Mobile devices now often offer tools for revision and learning, apps like GCSEPod can be used by young people to revise outside school in easy ways. Also increased availability of mobile devices has led to a lot of mobile games developing and it's important for young people to relax and play games as well as work. Another positive impact would be social networking, which is now readily available on most phones. Social networking has a positive impact, because it allows people to keep in touch with others and share photos on current situations with friends. Also more use of mobile phones has allowed young people to become very knowledgeable on modern devices, which is very important.~~

Increased availability of mobile digital devices means it's now easier for young people to keep in contact with each other and maintain friendships. Mobile devices now often offer tools for revision and learning, apps like GCSEPod can be used by young people to ^{revise} ~~revis~~ outside school in easy ways. Also increased availability of mobile devices has led to a lot of mobile games developing and it's important for young people to relax and play games as well as work. Another positive impact would be social networking, which is now readily ~~on~~ available on most phones. Social networking has a positive impact, because it allows people to keep in touch with others and share ~~the~~ photos on current situations with friends. Also more use of mobile phones has allowed young people to become very knowledgeable on modern devices, which is very important.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response meets the content and argument descriptors for Level 3. A number of features of mobile digital devices are linked to their positive uses in a well structured argument. As the response meets the Level 3 descriptor for QWC (Quality of Written Communication), no reduction in marks was necessary and 6 marks were awarded.

* (h) 'The increased availability of mobile digital devices has had a positive impact on how young people use their free time.'

Make a reasoned argument to support this statement.

(6)

Mobile digital devices and especially smartphones ~~can~~ can have a very negative impact on young people's life. To begin with, since there are so many things you can do with a smartphone (i.e. text, ~~can~~ make calls, connect to social networking sites, surf the net, take pictures and videos, edit them etc.) it is very distracting and I think it's safe to say even addicting. ~~Young~~ Teenagers neglect their homework and stop spending time with their family and their friends face to face. This affects their personality as well. They become more introverted and antisocial since they only feel comfortable communicating via text. To analyse further, not only do they neglect their homework but they stop taking up activities they once loved. They start losing touch with the world outside their trapped mind. They get so addicted over ^{their phones} ~~smartphones~~ that they think it's the only bridge of communication with their friends. Finally it affects their mentality and disposition since it's common that everytime a friend doesn't text back or stops messaging you, they get nervous and really worried and they misunderstand things. To sum up, even though smartphones can ~~be~~ have a positive impact on young people's life, if not handled properly and with moderation it can change their lives and make them dependenced on a smartphone!



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The content in this response fits Level 1 descriptor, mostly as it focuses on the negatives rather than creating a supporting argument. The content presented is often not factually accurate with a focus on addiction. However, there is a big difference between 'addiction' and 'over-use' of digital devices. If a keen reader were to spend much of the day with their head in a book, it would not be appropriate to describe them as 'addicted', although one may say they need a more balanced day! 2 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be aware of extremist and perhaps alarmist views such as those demonstrated in this response and be able to argue against them. Using a negative in this way was seen in some candidates' responses as a pivot to a supportive statement.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Continue to develop the good practice of expanding and explaining answers using examples and reasons, where more than a simple statement or list is required
- Respond with the context of the question in mind
- Do not repeat responses when more than one example/reason is required
- Identify key words and command words in the question to ensure responses reflect what the question asks
- When required to give one **other** example/reason, ensure the response is discrete from the given example/reason
- Practise a range of extended questions, not just balanced arguments
- Allocate time to plan the two 6 marks extended questions

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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