

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

**INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
SPECIFICATION B (1995)**

ICT B

2380/1/&2/PRE

PRE-RELEASE MATERIAL

**Wednesday 14 January 2009
Morning**

Duration: 1 hour



INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of 4 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Notes for Guidance

Teachers

Candidates are allowed to take their own notes into the examination room. You may support and guide them but the research they take into the examination room must be their own work.

The notes they take into the examination room must **not** contain comments or marking by the teacher.

- Unit 4 is an examination paper in two tiers that will assess sections **5.3**, **5.4** and **5.5** of the specification.
- Candidates must also be fully conversant with the knowledge outlined in Unit 1: Core knowledge underpinning the use of ICT.
- It is unlikely that candidates who have not carried out the practical work associated with Unit 2 and Unit 3 will have gained sufficient insight into the application of ICT systems to successfully attempt this assessment.
- Candidates may be given the pre-release material at any point, but it must be given to them **at least four weeks** before the examination.
- Candidates can be given support and advice in the interpretation of the materials and the use of ICT in the context identified.
- Candidates do not have to be directly supervised while they are researching or producing work in response to the pre-release materials.
- Flow chart stencils should be available to candidates for use during the examination.
- Teachers should check that materials taken into the examination are appropriate and comply with the 'Regulations for the Conduct of Examinations'.

NOTE: Where examination questions relate to the pre-release research activities, candidates will only be awarded marks when they answer the question asked.

Materials taken into the examination must not be attached to or submitted with the answer booklet.

Candidates

You may take your **own** notes into the examination room. This will normally consist of four A4 sheets. Remember you should not just quote from your notes. Your notes are there to help and guide you. Marks will be awarded for correctly answering the questions set.

The research sheet is provided to help you to structure your notes. The examination papers do not have specific questions on all the content outlined in the research sheet, however following the research sheet will help you to revise the correct areas covered by the examination papers.

- You may take a flow chart stencil into the examination room.
- Textbooks are **not** allowed in the examination room.

Pre-release 2009

Travel-m8 is a software company that produces software to be used on PCs and mobile devices. All of the software they produce supports travellers.

The company produces translation software, navigation software and currency conversion aids. Some of these aids take the form of software and desktop widgets.

Travel-m8 software is also available as demoware. After trialling the software, users can purchase a licence. Regular patches and upgrades are produced.

Travel-m8 is a very forward-thinking company. They use modern communication methods including blogs, web forums and chats.

Travel-m8 staff use ICT systems for all of their working hours. As a high tech company Travel-m8 use a range of systems to improve efficiency.

You should explore:

- Different types of hand-held and fixed computer systems including personal computers, networks, mainframe computers and mobile phone systems
- The use and convergence of modern hand-held devices
- Mobile phone functionality including internet access
- Input and output devices including touch screens and concept keyboards
- Data storage technologies
- The environmental impacts of hardware obsolescence and replacement, including recycling
- Methods of communicating using the internet including blogs, web-chat forums and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)
- Different ways of using wireless technologies to link devices together
- Intellectual property rights and the growth of digital technology
- Criteria for evaluating websites
- Internet cookies
- Security issues when using internet communications such as email and websites
- Methods of protecting data security including firewalls, anti-virus software, spam filters, anti-spyware and popup blockers
- Passwords and password management software
- Software purchasing and updating
- Software and desktop widgets
- Use of bitmap and vector graphics
- Systems flow charts
- Health and safety when using a computer.



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