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Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

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Award In Primary Computing (JCP11)
Paper 01

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It was good to see that most candidates attempted all questions and the one hour allowed for the examination did not seem to be an issue.

The question paper consists of two sections.

Section A – assessed the content of the computer science topics.

Section B – assessed the content of the digital technology topics.

The paper included multiple-choice, closed-response questions and short-open questions.

Section A – Computer Science

- Question 1** This was a multiple-choice question.
- It was a very well answered question with most candidates achieving the mark.
- Question 2** Candidates were to draw lines between boxes to match features to applications
- The question was well answered with a minority of candidates failing to achieve any marks. The majority achieved full marks. The most common mix up was thinking a feature of a spreadsheet was a table and a feature of a spreadsheet was a cell rather than vice versa.
- Question 3** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.
- Question 4** Candidates were to describe what is meant by the term social engineering.
- This was not a well-answered question. Many candidates confused social engineering with social media, whilst others only gave a partial description e.g., to trick someone without saying why etc.
- Question 5** Candidates were to give a method that can be used to secure data and personal information online.
- This was a very well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark and password being the most popular response.
- Question 6** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.
- Question 7** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.

- Question 8** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.
- Question 9** Candidates were to describe one way in which access to the internet enables people to exercise.
- Surprisingly over 50% of candidates did not achieve any marks, the reason being the responses were too vague or not answering the question. For example, "it lets people exercise" or "children watch it too much".
- Question 10** Candidates were to give one benefit of online entertainment services.
- Unfortunately, this question was not answered well. This was surprising as a similar question has appeared in a past paper. Where the mark was not achieved it was generally because the response was too vague. For example, "can make you laugh when sad".
- Question 11** Candidates were to state one use of a virtual learning environment.
- This question was not well answered. Many candidates misunderstood the requirements of the questions i.e., assuming the word environment meant they had to talk about the environment. For example, "virtual learning environment can help people learn more about the environment".
- Question 12** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a very well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.
- Question 13** This was a multiple-choice question.
- Less than half of the candidates recognised that a Wiki is a user generated reference site.
- Question 14** This was a multiple-choice question.
- This was a very well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.

Question 15 Candidates were to complete the sentence by selecting a word from the choices given.

More than half of the candidates recognised that digital information and media are protected by copyright.

Question 16 Candidates were to complete the sentence by selecting a word from the choices given.

The majority of candidates were able to recognise the statement given was inaccurate information.

Question 17 Candidates were to complete the table to indicate which of the features were applicable to an online shopping site.

This was a very well answered question. Most candidates achieved both marks.

Question 18 Candidates were to complete the sentence by selecting a word from the choices given.

Very few candidates did not achieve the mark. It was very clear to see that the majority of candidates know that an algorithm is a set of instructions to complete a task.

Question 19 Candidates were to complete the sentence by selecting a word from the choices given.

The question was very well answered with the majority of candidates correctly identifying that the process used to change A into B is decomposition.

Question 20 Candidates were to give the data type that should be used for each of the given inputs and examples given.

Candidates are certainly showing more understanding of data types with less than 20% who did not achieve at least 1 mark and more than a ¼ achieving all 4 marks. However, it is still clear that candidates do not fully understand that there are different types of numbers, or a Boolean data type is used for True/False, Yes/No etc.

Question 21

Candidates were given a flowchart that contained an error.

- (a) The candidates were to circle the box that had the error.

Just over half of the candidates correctly identified the error i.e. 1 was being subtracted from the number of cubes.

- (b) Surprisingly of those who did achieve the mark for (a) a number were not able to say how the error could be corrected – add 1 instead of subtracting.

- (c) Candidates still appear to struggle to understand what a variable is or recognise where one is being used in a flowchart. Less than 30% of candidates achieved a mark here.

- (d) Very few candidates could answer this question in the context of the flowchart they were given i.e. repetition was needed because there may be more than one shape in the bag and selection was needed to ensure only cubes were counted.

Question 22 Candidates were given a flowchart to complete.

- (a) Candidates had to complete the boxes that were empty. Over half of the candidates achieved at least one mark with nearly 30% achieving both.
- (b) Candidates had to identify circle an output on the flowchart.

This was very well answered with the majority of candidates achieving the mark.

- (c) This was the second instance in the paper where candidates had to identify a variable in the flowchart. Again, it was not well answered with many candidates failing to identify one.

Question 23 Candidates were given part of a flowchart that was to check whether the user had guessed a secret number.

It as nice to see the number of candidates who achieved the full 3 marks. Where the 3 marks were not achieved, weaknesses included failing to signify the decisions i.e. a ? at the end of it. Failing to include Yes/No correctly from the decision, not connecting the actions or not answering the question.

Section B – Digital Technology

- Question 25** This was a multiple-choice question.
- Many candidates incorrectly identified a positive environmental impact as paper being no longer used. This is not true. It would appear many stopped reading the options at that point rather than study all four statements.
- Question 26** This was a multiple-choice question.
- Many candidates correctly identified that a reason for using an organised folder structure is to make it easier to locate files.
- Question 27** Candidates were given two versions of an image to study.
- (a) Surprisingly just over 50% of candidates were able to recognise that three different shapes had been used to create the image or to state the number of each different type of shape e.g., 2 triangles.
- (b) Candidates were to describe how image A had been edited to produce image B.
- Very few candidates did not achieve at least one mark. Where the second mark was not achieved it tended to be because the candidates had not commented on the addition of the text box
- Question 28** Candidates were given a slide to study and had to identify the names of two components that had been used on the slide.
- This was a very well answered question with the majority of candidates achieving both marks. The most common mark achieved was for image.
- Question 29** Candidates were asked to explain why the merge feature had been used to format part of the table.
- Very few candidates were able to explain that the feature had been used to that the word Days became a heading for the days of the week.

Question 30 Candidates were given an extract of formatted text to study.

(a) This was a multiple-choice question.

It was very well answered with the majority of candidates correctly identifying that the formatting feature used at X was align right.

(b) This was a multiple-choice question.

It was also very well answered with the majority of candidates correctly identifying that the numbering feature had been used.

Question 31 Candidates were given part of a database to study.

(a) Candidates were to complete a sentence by adding two words.

Over a third of candidates did not achieve any marks. The most common reasons why were transposing the fields and records or counting the data items as fields.

(b) This was a multiple-choice question.

Surprisingly over 65% of candidates did not recognise that the telephone number would used a text data type.

(c) Candidates needed to complete the given query.

This was quite well answered with many candidates correctly adding 21/01/1972 as the missing criteria (or variations of that). Where the mark was not awarded it tended to be because the date of birth was incorrect, or the candidates had given the last name of the artist.

Question 32 Candidates were given part of a spreadsheet to study.

(a) This was a multiple-choice question.

Over 50% of candidates were able to correctly identify that `=SUM(B8:B10)` was used to calculate the value in B11.

(b) Candidates were to give the formula used to calculate the value in B10.

This was not well answered with just over 21% giving the correct answer.

Question 33 Candidates were to choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

Over 50% did complete the sentence correctly that letter identify the columns in a spreadsheet. The most common incorrect answer was rows.

