

**COS1521**  
**RCO1521**

( 476940)

( 492881)

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**COMPUTER SYSTEMS: FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS**

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

**EXAMINERS .**

FIRST

SECOND

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**Closed book examination****This examination question paper remains the property of the University of South Africa and may not be removed from the examination venue**

This paper consists of 28 pages and the instructions for the completion of a mark-reading sheet

**Please complete the attendance register on the back page, tear it off and hand it to the invigilator****Instructions:**

- 1 All the questions in this paper are **multiple-choice**
- 2 There are 80 questions in total Your total mark out of 80 will be converted to a final exam mark out of 100
- 3 Answer all the questions There is also space for rough work
- 4 Using a pencil, answer all the questions on the **mark-reading sheet**
- 5 Remember to fill in the **unique number** (see top of page) on the mark-reading sheet
- 6 You are **not** allowed to use a calculator

EVERYTHING OF THE BEST!

**[TURN OVER]**

**This paper consists of 80 multiple-choice questions.**

**Each question is worth 1 mark.**

**Your total out of 80 will be converted to give a final exam mark out of 100.**

**Mark only one alternative per question with a pencil on the mark-reading sheet.**

*(Remember to fill in the unique number.)*

**Section A: Computer background, number systems, data storage, operations on data and logic** **(27 marks)**

**QUESTION 1**

According to the Turing, the output data of a computer depends on which factor (s)?

- 1 Input only
- 2 CPU speed and input
- 3 Input and program
- 4 Program and CPU speed

**QUESTION 2**

Since 1950, historians have divided computer software and hardware into generations. Which of them is referred to as the 'open-ended generation'?

- 1 Fifth
- 2 Sixth
- 3 Third
- 4 Fourth

**QUESTION 3**

Convert  $(77)_{10}$  to a hexadecimal number

- 1  $(43)_{16}$
- 2  $(4D)_{16}$
- 3  $(54)_{16}$
- 4  $(5F)_{16}$

**QUESTION 4**

Convert  $(10111\ 01)_2$  to an octal number

- 1  $(25\ 01)_8$
- 2  $(52\ 2)_8$
- 3  $(27\ 2)_8$
- 4  $(53\ 1)_8$

**[TURN OVER]**



**QUESTION 8**

Currently, computers store data in different forms. Which one of the following is not a *type of data* for computers?

- 1 Audio
- 2 Video
- 3 Byte
- 4 Numbers

**QUESTION 9**

Which one of the following refers to the process of converting quantized samples values to bit patterns when storing audio?

- 1 Sampling
- 2 Quantisation
- 3 Compression
- 4 Encoding

**QUESTION 10**

Which one of the following is an application of the XOR operator?

- 1 To set specific bits in a bit pattern
- 2 To flip specific bits in a bit pattern
- 3 To unset specific bits in a bit pattern
- 4 To complement all the bits in a bit pattern

**QUESTION 11**

Calculate  $(101001)_2 - (1111)_2$

- 1  $(11001)_2$
- 2  $(11110)_2$
- 3  $(11010)_2$
- 4  $(11101)_2$

**Apply Boolean algebra rules in the following THREE questions.**

**QUESTION 12**

What is the simplest form of the Boolean function  $xy' + [(x' + y)z]$ ?

- 1 1
- 2  $xy'z$
- 3  $xy' + z$
- 4  $xy' + x'z + yz$

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 13**

What is the simplest form of the Boolean function  $x'y + x'yz' + x'yz$ ?

- 1 0
- 2  $x'yz' + x'y z$
- 3  $x'y$
- 4 1

**QUESTION 14**

What is the simplest form of the Boolean function  $(x+y)' y'$ ?

- 1  $x'y$
- 2  $x + y$
- 3  $x' + y'$
- 4  $x'y'$

Rough work

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 15**

Consider the following Boolean function

$$F(x,y,z) = m_1 + m_2 + m_5 + m_7$$

Which one of the following four Karnaugh diagrams represents the given function?

1

	$y'z'$	$y'z$	$yz$	$yz'$
$x'$			1	1
$x$		1	1	

2

	$y'z'$	$y'z$	$yz$	$yz'$
$x'$		1		1
$x$	1			1

3

	$y'z'$	$y'z$	$yz$	$yz'$
$x'$		1		1
$x$		1	1	

4

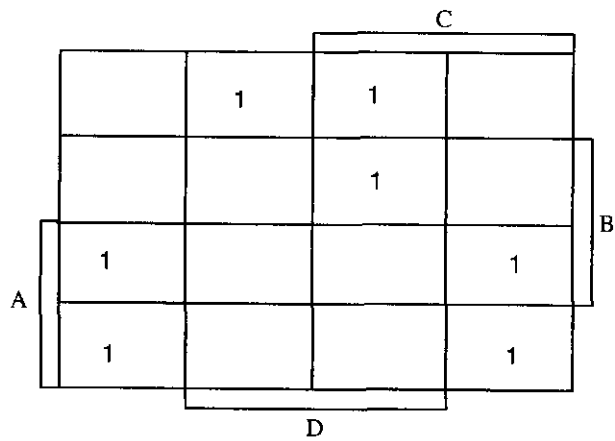
	$y'z'$	$y'z$	$yz$	$yz'$
$x'$			1	1
$x$		1		1

[TURN OVER]

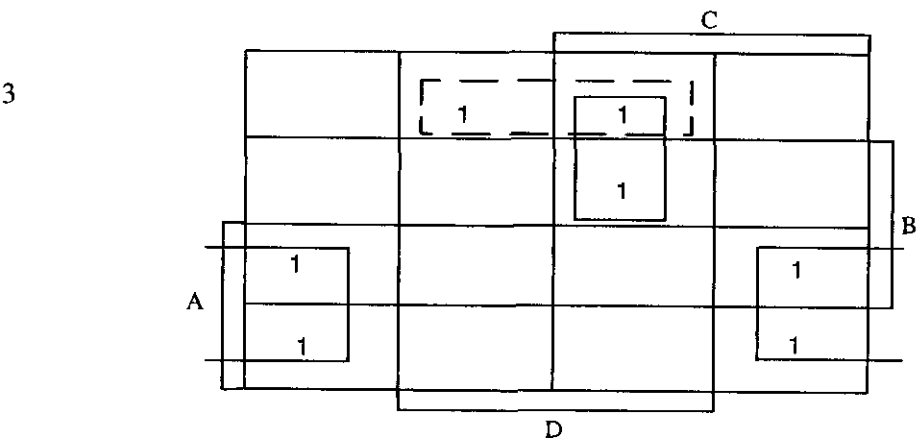
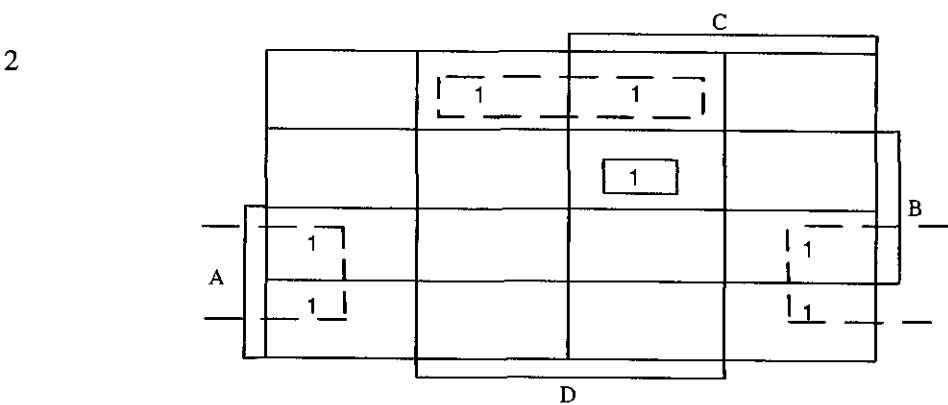
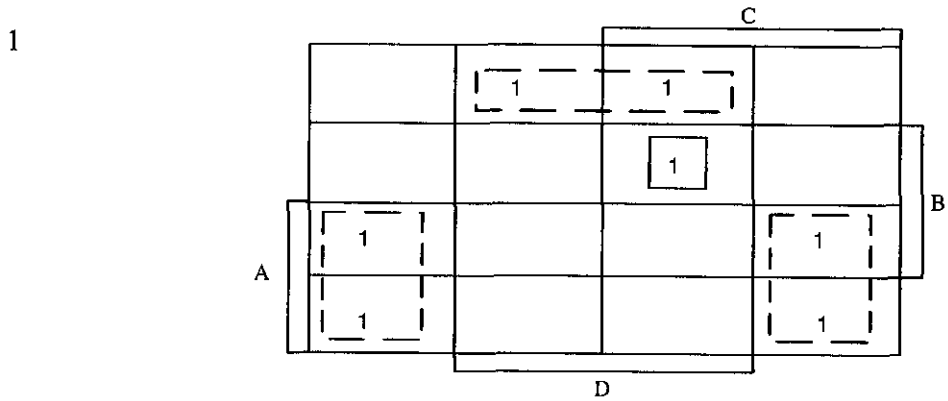


**QUESTION 16**

Consider the following Karnaugh map



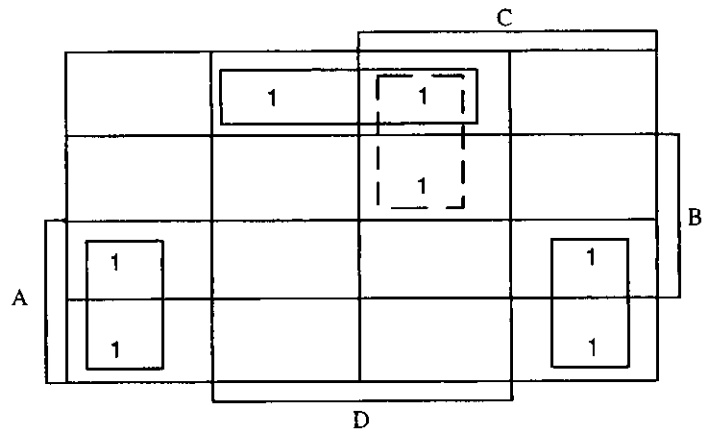
Which one of the following four Karnaugh maps reflects the correct forming of groups?



[TURN OVER]



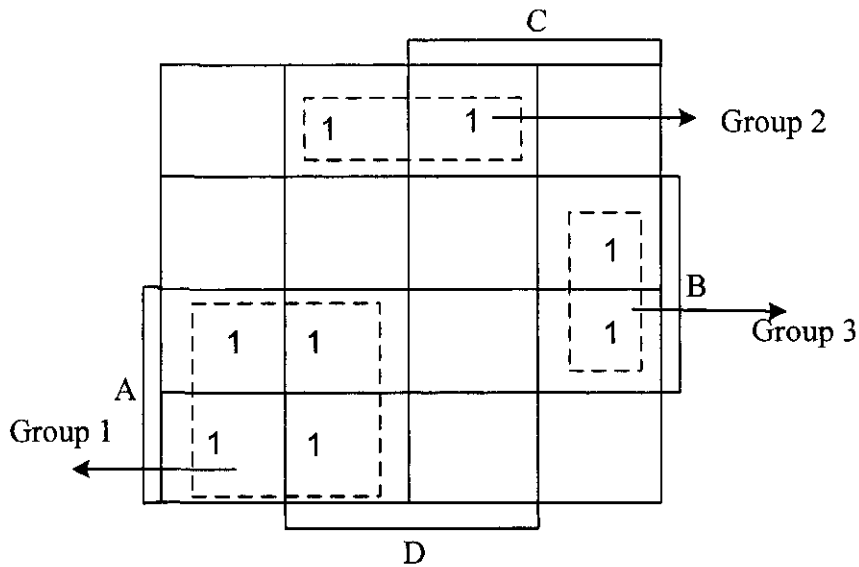
4



Rough work

[TURN OVER]

The next THREE questions refer to the Karnaugh map below:



**QUESTION 17**

Which term represents Group 1?

- 1  $A'C'$
- 2  $AC$
- 3  $AC'$
- 4  $A'$

**QUESTION 18**

Which term represents Group 2?

- 1  $A'B'D$
- 2  $A'BD$
- 3  $BC'D$
- 4  $CD$

**QUESTION 19**

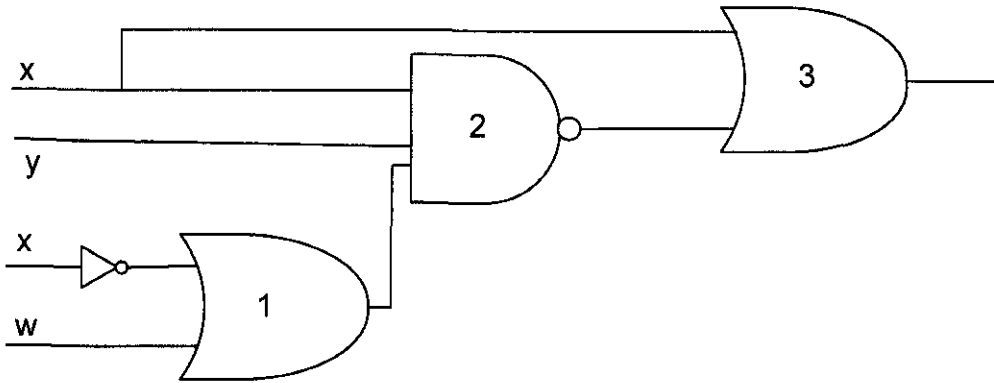
Which term represents Group 3?

- 1  $BCD'$
- 2  $BC'D'$
- 3  $A'BD$
- 4  $B'CD'$

[TURN OVER]



The next THREE questions refer to the following combinational logic circuit:



### QUESTION 20

What is the output of Gate 1?

- 1  $x' + w'$
- 2  $x w$
- 3  $x' + w$
- 4  $x + w$

### QUESTION 21

What is the output of Gate 2?

- 1  $[(x' + w') y' x]'$
- 2  $[(x' + w) y x]'$
- 3  $(x' + w) + y' + x$
- 4  $[(x.w) + y' + x]'$

### QUESTION 22

What is the output of Gate 3?

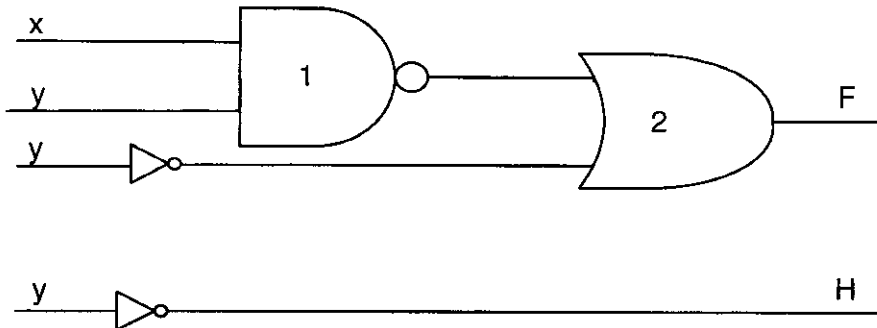
- 1  $[(x' + w) y x]' + x$
- 2  $[(x' + w') y' x]' + x$
- 3  $[(x + w) y' x]' + x$
- 4  $[(x' + w) + y' + x] \cdot x'$

[TURN OVER]



**QUESTION 23**

Consider the following two logic circuits



These two logic circuits are not equivalent  $F = (xy)' + y'$  and  $H = y'$  One of the two gates can be changed so that the circuits can become equivalent Which gate can be changed and what kind of gate must it become?

- 1 Gate 2 must change to an AND gate
- 2 Gate 1 must change to an AND gate
- 3 Gate 2 must change to a NAND gate
- 4 Gate 1 must change to an OR gate

Rough work

[TURN OVER]

**Consider the following scenario:**

Three people go to a farm to gather apples. They can choose containers that can hold 10 or 15 or 17 or 20 apples. The containers are numbered C10, C15, C17 and C20 where the numbers indicate the number of apples that a container can hold (E.g. C20 can hold 20 apples).

**Person A can fill C10 & C15, Person B can fill C10 & C17, and Person C can fill C17 & C20**

If a person fills two containers with apples, then the output for that person is 1. For example, if  $A = 1$ ,  $B = 1$  and  $C = 0$ , then it means that only A and B fill their containers.

A Boolean function  $F(A,B,C)$  is defined as follows:  $F(A,B,C) = 1$  when a group of three persons A, B and C gathers more than 50 apples, otherwise  $F(A,B,C) = 0$ .

**Different combination inputs for A, B and C are given in the tables in the following FOUR questions. The question that should be answered in each case is: Which alternative shows the correct outputs for F?**

**QUESTION 24**

			Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
A	B	C	F	F	F	F
0	0	0	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	1	0

**QUESTION 25**

			Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
A	B	C	F	F	F	F
0	1	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0

**QUESTION 26**

			Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
A	B	C	F	F	F	F
1	0	0	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	1	1	0

**[TURN OVER]**





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**Section B: Computer systems, organisation and networks****(18 marks)****QUESTION 28**

Which one of the following is NOT a register in a CPU?

- 1 Data register
- 2 Program register
- 3 Instruction register
- 4 Program counter

**QUESTION 29**

Which one of the following statements is NOT true about cache memory?

- 1 It is faster than main memory
- 2 It is slower than the CPU
- 3 It is faster than the registers
- 4 It contains a copy of a portion of main memory

**QUESTION 30**

What is the *third* step in the procedure when the CPU needs to access a word in main memory?

- 1 The CPU checks the cache
- 2 The CPU accesses the cache and copies the word
- 3 The CPU displays the word
- 4 The CPU checks the registers

**QUESTION 31**

A computer has 1024 MB of memory. Each word in this computer is 64 bytes. How many bits are needed to address any single word in memory?

- 1 25
- 2 26
- 3 23
- 4 24

**QUESTION 32**

In the fetch stage of the machine cycle used by the CPU, \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 instructions are decoded by the control unit
- 2 the address of the instruction to be copied is held in the program counter
- 3 the task order is sent to a component in the CPU
- 4 the contents of two input registers are added

**[TURN OVER]**

**QUESTION 33**

Which one of the following is NOT part of the three phases the CPU uses in its cycle to execute instructions in a program

- 1 Decode
- 2 Execute
- 3 Run
- 4 Fetch

**QUESTION 34**

Which one of the following is NOT a network topology?

- 1 Ring
- 2 Star
3. Bus
4. Bridge

**QUESTION 35**

What is the name of a central controller on which all the other computer network devices are connected using dedicated point-to-point links?

- 1 A backbone
- 2 A ring
3. A hub
- 4 A workstation

**QUESTION 36**

There are several layers in the Internet TCP/IP protocol suite. Each performs a different function. What is the data link layer responsible for?

- 1 Node-to-node delivery of frames
- 2 Delivery of individual packets from the source host to the destination host.
- 3 Providing services to the user
- 4 Logical delivery of a message between client and server processes

**QUESTION 37**

Which of the following is NOT a component of email architecture?

- 1 MTA server
- 2 MAA client
- 3 FTP protocol
- 4 UA

**[TURN OVER]**

**QUESTION 38**

Which one of the following is NOT part of the client in the FTP model?

- 1 Control connection
- 2 User interface
- 3 Control process
- 4 Data transfer process

**QUESTION 39**

Which of the following is NOT a basic requirement for the WWW?

- 1 Web server
- 2 Host name
- 3 Browser
- 4 HTTP

**QUESTION 40**

Which of the following is NOT TRUE about Operating system?

- 1 An Operating system is an interface between the hardware of a computer and the user
- 2 An Operating system is a program (or set of programs) that facilitates the execution of other programs
- 3 An Operating system acts as general manager supervising the activity of each component
- 4 An Operating system is a collection of devices that allows a computer to communicate with the outside world

**QUESTION 41**

Which of the following techniques belongs to the *non-swapping* category?

- 1 Demand paging and demand segmentation
- 2 Partitioning and demand paging
- 3 Paging and demand segmentation
- 4 Partitioning and paging

**QUESTION 42**

Which of the following is NOT a component of Modern Operating system?

- 1 File manger
- 2 Memory manager
- 3 User manager
- 4 Device manager

**QUESTION 43**

What is the name of the technique in which the memory is divided into variable-length sections, each section holding one program and CPU switches between them?

- 1 Partitioning
- 2 Paging
- 3 Demand paging
- 4 Demand segmentation

**QUESTION 44**

Which one of the following is FALSE about the file manager?

- 1 It is responsible for archiving and backups
- 2 It supervises the creation, deletion, and modification of files
- 3 It controls access to files
- 4 It monitors every input/output device

**QUESTION 45**

Which major component of UNIX is regarded as the heart of the system and contains the most basic part of the operating system?

- 1 Kernel
- 2 Shell
- 3 Utilities
- 4 Applications

**Section C: Computer algorithms, programming and software development****(18 marks)****QUESTION 46**

A list contains the following elements

10 12 19 23 38 42 55 65 77 82 85 100 119 163 170

At the beginning, first = 1, mid = 8 and last = 15. What are the values of first, mid and last respectively after two more iterations of the binary search algorithm if the goal is 163?

- 1 8, 11, 15
- 2 9, 10, 11
- 3 9, 12, 15
- 4 13, 14, 15

**[TURN OVER]**

**QUESTION 47**

Suppose a list contains the following elements

55 71 16 33 65 48 83 24

What is the order of the elements in the list after three passes if selection sort is used?

- 1 16 24 33 55 65 48 83 71
- 2 16 71 55 33 65 48 83 24
- 3 16 24 55 33 65 48 83 71
- 4 16 24 33 55 48 65 71 83

**QUESTION 48**

In which Sorting algorithms is the list to be sorted divided in to two sublists – sorted and unsorted, and separated by an imaginary wall?

- 1 Selection sort
- 2 Bubble sort
- 3 Insertion sort
- 4 Deletion sort

**QUESTION 49**

Which one of the following is a pictorial representation of an algorithm?

- 1 Loop
- 2 Repetition
- 3 UML
- 4 Class

**QUESTION 50**

Which construct is represented by the below Pseudocode?

```
get our number  
set our initial count to 0  
while our number is greater than 1  
  divide the number by 2  
  increase our count by 1  
end
```

- 1 Sequence
- 2 Decision
- 3 Repetition
- 4 Generalization

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 51**

Which one of the following is NOT a logical parts of the 'Summation' algorithm?

- 1 Swap the selection
- 2 Initialization of the sum at the beginning
- 3 A Loop, which in each iteration adds a new integer to the sum
- 4 Return of the result after exiting from the loop

**QUESTION 52**

Compilation \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 is a form of interpretation
- 2 translates and executes the source code a line at a time
- 3 translates the whole source program into the object module before executing it
- 4 is used in the first *approach* to interpretation

**QUESTION 53**

Which translation analyzer parses a set of tokens to find instructions?

- 1 Lexical
- 2 Syntax
- 3 Semantic
- 4 Code generator

**QUESTION 54**

Which one of the following programming paradigm is considered to be imperative?

- 1 Declarative
- 2 Functional
- 3 Procedural
- 4 Object-oriented

**QUESTION 55**

In which two forms can a final program in Java be?

- 1 An application or a function
- 2 A function or a procedure
- 3 A procedure or an applet
- 4 An application or an applet

**QUESTION 56**

Which of the following operators compares data to see if a value is greater than, less than, or equal to another value?

- 1 Arithmetic operators
- 2 Relational operators
- 3 Logical operators
- 4 Control operators

**QUESTION 57**

In the Scheme version of LISP, if Names = (John Mathi Siphon Ruth Kali Busi Jonah), then (car (cdr (cdr Names))) would give a result of

- 1 Mathi
- 2 Siphon
- 3 Ruth
- 4 Kali

**QUESTION 58**

One very popular model for the software development process is known as the waterfall model. Which one of the following statements is NOT TRUE about this model?

- 1 The developers add more functionality until the existing system works properly
- 2 The development process flows in only one direction
- 3 The analysis phase of the whole project should be completed before its design phase is started
- 4 Each phase is completed before the next phase starts

**QUESTION 59**

Which one of the following is regarded as disadvantage of Waterfall model?

- 1 The testing team can test the whole system
- 2 The group that works on design phase needs complete results from analysis phase
- 3 If there is a problem in part of the process, then the entire process must be checked
- 4 The development process involves four phases only

**QUESTION 60**

Which of the following is NOT a symbol of data flow diagrams?

- 1 Data storage
- 2 Process
- 3 Data flow
- 4 Start

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 61**

\_\_\_\_\_ between modules in a software system must be maximised

- 1 Modularity
- 2 Cohesion
- 3 Coupling
- 4 Procedures

**QUESTION 62**

Transferability is one of the measures for software quality. Transferability includes \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 reusability, interoperability and portability
- 2 Changeability, usability and correctability
- 3 Changeability, flexibility and testability
- 4 Reliability, flexibility and timeliness

**QUESTION 63**

What is the other name for Glass-box testing?

- 1 Exhaustive testing
- 2 Random testing
- 3 Black-box testing
- 4 White-box testing

**Section D: Computer data and file structure, and databases****(17 marks)****QUESTION 64**

Which of the following is NOT TRUE of a loop in an array?

- 1 Can be used to read and write the elements *in an array*
- 2 Loops can be used to process elements
- 3 If there are 10, 100, or 1000 elements to be processed, loops make it easy to handle them all
- 4 performs operations on data

**[TURN OVER]**



**QUESTION 65**

The common operations on arrays of structures are \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 searching, updating, deletion, insertion and retrieval (lower case)
- 2 copying, searching, deletion, retrieval, and traversal
- 3 searching, insertion, deletion, retrieval, and traversal
- 4 updating, searching, copying, deletion, insertion, and traversal

**QUESTION 66**

The below figure shows two-dimensional array, which holds the scores of students in a class. There are 10 students in the class and each student has four different scores for four quizzes.

Which of the following variable scores represent the score of the 3<sup>rd</sup> student in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quiz?

Second dimension (Columns)

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
[1]				
[2]				
[3]				
[4]				
[5]				
[6]				
[7]				
[8]				
[9]				
[10]				

first dimension (rows)

**SCORES**

- 1 SCORES [3] [2]
- 2 SCORES [2] [3]
- 3 SCORES [2] [2]
- 4 SCORES [3] [3]

**QUESTION 67**

Which one of the following best describes a record?

- 1 A collection of data in which each element contains the location of next element
- 2 A file containing data, such as a file created within an application program
- 3 A collection of different elements that can be stored on different locations
- 4 A collection of related elements, possibly of different types, having a single name

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 68**

In an array we have two identifiers, name them:

1. Data and link
2. Class and node
3. The Array of records and the data type
4. The name of the array and the name of each individual element

**QUESTION 69**

A linked list is a suitable structure if -

1. A small number of insertions and deletions are required
2. A large number of insertions and deletions are needed
3. A lot of searching and retrieval is needed
4. Collection of related elements is required

**QUESTION 70**

Which of the following best describe what a file?

1. It is always sequential, hashed and indexed
2. It is a very small record which is loaded in to main memory
3. It is how you retrieve information
4. It is an external collection of related data treated as a unit

**QUESTION 71**

Which one of the following is NOT one of Hashing methods?

1. Direct hashing
2. Bucket hashing
3. Modulo division hashing
4. Digit extraction hashing

**QUESTION 72**

One of the disadvantages of open addressing is \_\_\_\_\_?

1. The first record is stored in the home address, but contains a pointer to the second record
2. The bucket hashing accommodates more than one record
3. Each collision resolution increases the probability of future collisions
4. It uses multiple approaches when collision occurs

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**QUESTION 73**

Which UNIX directory is the highest level in the file system hierarchy?

- 1 Root directory
- 2 Home directory
- 3 Working directory
- 4 Parent directory

**QUESTION 74**

What is binary file?

- 1 A randomly accessible sequence of file
- 2 A collection of related files stored in a secondary device
- 3 A collection of data of data stored in the internal format of the computer
- 4 A file of characters

**QUESTION 75**

Which of the following is NOT a necessary component of a DBMS?

- 1 Hardware
- 2 Data
- 3 Software
- 4 Graphs

**QUESTION 76**

The database system has the following advantages as compared to the flat-file system EXCEPT

- 1 In a flat-file system there is a lot of redundancy
- 2 A database system is usually more efficient than a flat file system, because a piece of information is stored in fewer locations
- 3 In a database system it is easier to maintain data integrity, because a piece of information is stored in fewer locations
- 4 In a flat-file it is easier to maintain the confidentiality of the information

**QUESTION 77**

In a replicated distributed database \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 data is localised
- 2 each site holds an exact copy of another site
- 3 each relation need to have a key
- 4 data is stored in external device

[TURN OVER]

**QUESTION 78**

What does retrieving a node means in linked lists?

- 1 Randomly accessing a node for the purpose of inspecting or copying the data in the node
- 2 Copying a node at the middle or end of a linked list
- 3 Representing a list of items in memory
- 1 Checking a walking pointer to the first node

**QUESTION 79**

What is a declarative language which is used on relational databases called?

- 1 ISO
- 2 SQL
- 3 LES
- 4 OO

**QUESTION 80**

Which one of the following is NOT classified as database model?

- 1 Distributed database
  - 2 Relational databases
  - 3 Normalised databases
  - 4 Object-Oriented databases
-

