



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2007/2008
INSTITUTE OF OPEN LEARNING
EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
SIT 007: INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION SYSTEMS

DATE: Friday 11th January, 2008

TIME: 1.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. ANSWER QUESTION ONE (1) AND ANY OTHER TWO (2) QUESTIONS**
- 2. TIME : 2 HOURS**

QUESTION ONE

- (a) Explain what you understand by the following terms:
i) Operating system
ii) Single user operating system
iii) Multi-user operating system
iv) Graphical user operating system
v) Compiler
(5 Marks)
- (b) Briefly describe five (5) the major tasks carried out by an operating system
(5 Marks)
- (c) Outline five (5) advantages of using a word-processing program as compared to the use of a typewriter to produce documents.
(5 Marks)
- (d) Briefly describe five (5) features of a spreadsheet program
(5 Marks)
- (e) Briefly describe the steps you would undertake from a computer desktop access compose and send an E-mail to another E-mail account holder.
(5 Marks)
- (f) Briefly describe the following as used in computer classification:
i) Word-processor
ii) Personal computer
iii) Desktop computer
iv) Workstation
v) Lap-top
(5 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

Describe in detail the hardware characteristics of a typical micro-computer system for use in a small business.
(20 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Briefly describe three major characteristics for each of the following:
 - i) Low level languages
 - ii) High Level Languages(6 Marks)
- (b) Outline five (5) factors to consider in the selection of a programming language. (10 Marks)
- (c) Outline four (4) advantages in using a database. (4 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Outline five (5) major items that are purchased when one buys a new software for an organization. (5 Marks)
- (b) Briefly describe three (3) advantages and two (2) disadvantages of using software packages in an organization. (5 Marks)
- (c) Outline five (5) operations carried out when using a mouse. (5 Marks)
- (d) Outline five (5) factors to consider in selecting a data collection method and the medium to be used. (5 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Define what you understand by the term "Human Computer interface (HCI)" and briefly outline seven features that make HCI user friendly (8 Marks)
- (b) Briefly describe five (5) different types of user interface available. (5 Marks)
- (c) Outline four (4) functions carried out by a processor during data processing. (4 Marks)
- (d) Outline three (3) advantages of using a computer network for data processing. (3 Marks)