



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2017/2018

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

(INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)

SIT 103: COMPUTER AND SOCIETY

DATE: 14/12/2017

TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE 30 MARKS

- a) Compare and contrast utopian and dystopian perspectives of ICT and show how they have impacted on the social shaping of technology. (12 marks)
- b) What do you understand by the following terms as used in computers (8 marks)
- i. Moral evils
 - ii. Non-ethical Behavior
 - iii. Privacy
 - iv. Digital signature
- c) “The ICTs have leveled the global competitive playing field ” Friedman (2005).
Explain the above statement with respect to some of the forces that have enabled the leveling of the global competitive playfield (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO 20MARKS

- a) Explain the following terms in the ICT(use appropriate examples) (8 marks)
- i. privacy
 - ii. Computer mis-use
 - iii. Cyber stalking
 - iv. Ethics

- b) Draw the information life cycle and explain the processes that take place at any stage of the cycle. (4 marks)
- c) Explain what you understand by the term ethical thinking and describe any four types of ethical issues. (4 marks)
- d) Is it possible to have an ideal world in which ethical awareness is pervasive? Is such a world even desirable? Some people think not. State the arguments that follow their three lines of thought. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE 20MARKS.

- a) What do you understand by the term “information society”. Use the following 5 criteria to analyze the information society;
 - a. Technological,
 - b. Economic,
 - c. Occupational,
 - d. Spatial, and
 - e. Cultural (15 marks)
- b) Explain the ROLE played by the internet during the hotly contested presidential elections in August 2017 (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR 20 MARKS

- a) *“Cloud computing can be best defined as pool of scalable and abstract IT infrastructure that host end user applications, billed by consumption” Bouchard et al (2009)*
 Explain the above statement placing a special emphasis on the effects and impact of cloud computing to your work and way of life. (10 marks)
- b) ICTs are described as poverty reduction tools, discuss. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE 20 MARKS

- a) “IT professionals must act with Professional Competence and Integrity”. Give THREE explanations as to what this means using relevant examples. (9 marks)
- b) Explain the meaning of social informatics. (3 marks)
- c) State and explain any 4 consequences of ICTs in the society (8 marks)