



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Kenyatta University)
University Examinations for 2015/2016 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

DIPLOMA IN HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

DIPLOMA IN FASHION AND DESIGN

SH 024: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Date: 1/8/2016

Time: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One And Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a) Define the following terms in respect to ICT (3 marks)
 - i) Hardware
 - ii) Software
 - iii) Peripherals
- b) Illustrate and briefly describe the information processing cycle (5 marks)
- c) Outline three limitations of sound output. (3 marks)
- d) State three ways of creating tables in MS-Word. (3 marks)
- e) Indicate the keyboard shortcut keys used to perform the following operations in a windows environment.
 - i. Copy
 - ii. Paste
 - iii. Cut
 - iv. Select All(4 marks)
- f) Analyse three functions of an operating system. (6 marks)

- g) Indicate two application areas of the following software. (4 marks)
- i. Word Processors
 - ii. Graphics packages
- h) Leo intends to upgrade his computer. List two examples of such upgrades. (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) The hard disk is the most popular backup device. Analyse three reasons why this is so. (6 marks)
- b) Explain **four** reasons why a computer is considered as a powerful tool. (4 marks)
- c) Other than cost, outline three considerations when choosing a backup. (3 marks)
- d) Outline two strengths and two limitations of magnetic tapes as storage devices. (5 marks)
- e) Differentiate between softcopy and hardcopy output. (2 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Classify the following devices as either input or output
- Plotter, Scanner, Digital camera, Barcode reader, Monitor, Speaker, Microphone, Keyboard, Printer, Joystick (5 marks)
- b) Machakos University College has automated most of its operations. Describe three areas where this happened and clearly indicate the benefits derived from this move. (6 marks)
- c) Most libraries still use COM.
- i) Differentiate between the two types of COM. (2 marks)
 - ii) Indicate two merits and two demerits of this mode of output. (4 marks)
- d) Name the three major components of the CPU. (3 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Name the technology used in the first, second and third generation computers. (3 marks)
- b) Using **two** examples in each case, describe **two** ways of classifying computers. (6 marks)
- c) List **three** types of softcopy output devices. (3 marks)
- d) Explain **four** factors that one would consider when selecting hardware. (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Juma who is a student in MUC intends to buy a laptop and has approached you for advice. Explain to him **three** factors that will determine the cost of the laptop. (6 marks)
- b) Describe **three** variations of compact disks. (6 marks)
- c) Use a diagram to illustrate how operating systems are classified. (6 marks)
- d) Lynn has engaged the services of a software house to develop software that will to manage her tourism business. Explain two benefits that she will derive from this move. (2 marks)