GCSE EXAMINERS' REPORTS

ICT

JANUARY 2020

Grade boundary information for this subject is available on the WJEC public website at:
https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/MarkToUMS/default.aspx?l=en

Online results analysis

WJEC provides information to examination centres via the WJEC secure website. This is restricted to centre staff only. Access is granted to centre staff by the Examinations Officer at the centre.

Annual Statistical Report

The annual Statistical Report (issued in the second half of the Autumn Term) gives overall outcomes of all examinations administered by WJEC.

Comments on individual questions

Q.1 **(a)** The question was well answered by the majority of candidates.

(b) This question was poorly answered by many candidates.

(c) This question was well answered by the majority of candidates. Candidates lost marks by giving brand names instead of software type.

Q.2 This question was fairly well answered by most candidates with many candidates gaining the mark available for information. Some candidates lost marks by not linking their answers with the example given.

Q.3 Very well answered by all candidates and accessible to all candidates due to the tick box format.

Q.4 **(a)** This question was extremely well answered by most candidates.

(b) This question was well answered by all candidates and all candidates were able to identify the key field and describe the purpose.

(c) This question was well answered by all candidates.

(d) This question was well answered by some candidates. Many candidates were able to access at least two marks by naming the validation technique and giving the criteria.

(e) This question was well answered by most candidates.

(f) This question was extremely well answered by most candidates.

Q.5 **(a)** Mostly well answered by all candidates. Some candidates mixed up data and formula and lost marks.

(b) Extremely well answered by all candidates.

(c) Fairly well answered by many candidates, although candidates did not achieve the mark where they used a pound sign in their answer.

(d) Quite poorly answered by most candidates. Many candidates were not able to explain absolute cell referencing.

(e) Poorly answered by most candidates due to candidates referencing the wrong cell and leaving out the correct syntax – speech marks, commas and brackets.

(f) Poorly answered or not attempted by the majority of candidates.

Q.6 **(a)** Fairly well answered, due to the tick box format of the question.

(b) This was a strengthened spec topic and was fairly well answered by most candidates.

(c) Most candidates found the benefits of 5G fairly easy to answer with popular answers given being super-fast Internet access and faster downloading. Many candidates gave answers that involved cost as a disadvantage, which was not accepted.

Q.7 **(a)** Fairly well answered by many candidates due to the accessible tick box format.

(b) Extremely well answered by the majority of candidates.

(c) Quite well answered with popular answers including to upload photos directly to social media and uploading photos to a web page.

(d) Quite poorly answered or not attempted.

(e) Candidates mostly gained one mark out of the available two for saying that the more megapixels a camera has the better quality the image. The majority of candidates lost the mark for not explaining what is meant by a megapixel.

Q.8 **(a)** This is a new spec topic and was quite poorly answered by the majority of candidates.

(b) Quite poorly answered by many candidates. Popular correct answers included you can access your files your documents from many different devices and that you can access your files from anywhere with Internet access.

Q.9 **(a)** This question was well answered by most candidates, however some candidates lost marks for using brand names and for giving "categories" on its own as an answer.

(b) Fairly well answered by the majority of candidates.

Q.10 This is a new strengthened spec topic and was fairly well answered with many candidates giving correct answers such as students can work at their own pace and many free MOOC courses available. Candidates sometimes lost marks for giving opposites advantages and disadvantages.

Q.11 Fairly well answered with many candidates being able to give the health risks and preventions. Marks were generally lost where the candidate simply stated the health risk and didn't describe how the risk could occur. Repeating the preventions twice also disadvantages some candidates e.g. saying "Take regular breaks" for both health risks.

Q.12 Some very good planning techniques and well laid out written responses were seen on this extended writing question, and in some cases, answers were impressive and well above the required GCSE standard.

Candidates who had studied smart devices in the home answered this question extremely well. These candidates were able to give a smart device and give advantages and disadvantages of the device. Where candidates lost marks it was because they did not talk about smart devices in the home, they gave answers about games consoles, radios or just talked about regular heating and lighting systems. Marks were also lost due to candidates repeating advantages and disadvantages for each of the devices they were discussing. For example giving high initial cost three times as a disadvantage. Popular correct answers for smart devices included smart vacuum cleaners, smart fridges and smart security systems such as doorbells.

ICT

General Certificate of Secondary Education

January 2020

4333 IT UNIT 3 - ICT IN ORGANISATIONS

Comments on individual questions

Q.1 **(a)** Almost all candidates attempted this question and most did well.

(b) Almost all candidates attempted this question and the majority answered well. Answers generally included microphone, headsets and graphic tablets.

Q.2 **(a)** Generally well answered.

(b) Most candidates were able to give one correct answer, usually passwords. A minority of candidates were able to give four suitable methods to protect data.

(c) Not very well answered. A minority of candidates stated hacking and data corruption as the two main disadvantages.

(d) Generally well answered.

Q.3 **(a)** Poorly answered.

(b) Answered correctly by about half of candidates.

(c) Candidates could generally define what a sound wave editor did but the majority struggled with the other two terms.

Q.4 **(a)** Very well answered. This question was the best answered in the paper.

(b) Well answered by the majority. Most candidates showed an understanding of the need to reduce the quality or compress the image.

(c) Generally well answered. A high number of candidates did have difficulty in communicating their answer concisely.

(d) Generally well answered.

Q.5 **(a)** Poorly answered.

(b) Poorly answered. Only a minority of candidates were able to attain any marks on this question.

(c) Most candidates were able to note that Onion Skinning involved seeing other frames, but only a minority could state the purpose of seeing the previous frame.

Q.6 **(a)** **(i)** Most candidates had an idea but failed to communicate their understanding. A high number of candidates stated the same point in two different ways in an attempt to get the two marks e.g. Intranet private and internet public. Only a minority of candidates were able to show an understanding of the internet.

(ii) As with part one, candidates attempted to reverse a single point in an attempt to get two marks, or only stated that one was for a wide area and the other for a local area.

(b) As with part one, candidates attempted to reverse a single point in an attempt to get two marks, or only stated that one was for a wide area and the other for a local area.

(c) Very well answered

(d) Poorly answered. Candidates often didn't attempt this question or guessed. Only a minority had a clear understanding.

Q.7 **(a)** Poorly answered. The majority of candidates stating it was a Menu Driven Interface.

(b) Poorly answered. Candidates were unable to give relevant examples and often used brand names for their voice driven, rather than smart speaker.

(c) Generally answered well. Candidates demonstrated an understanding of the difficulty of using a CLI for a beginner as a disadvantage and the fact is uses less memory as an advantage.

Q.8 **(a)** Poorly answered. A minority knew that the processing type was batch processing but only a few candidates were able to give the reason why this type of processing was used.

(b) Poorly answered.

(c) Most candidates were able to give at least one field that would be found in the master file. Candidates would be advised to consider "Total pay" and "Total tax" instead of one-word answers.

Q.9 **(a)** Attempted by almost all candidates. Most candidates were able to give one advantage or disadvantage. Some candidates had difficulty understanding the difference between environment issues and social issues.

(b) As above. Most candidates were able to give one advantage or disadvantage, but candidates should be encouraged to write in more detail and justify their points.

Q.10 Attempted by the majority but poorly answered. Candidates that did attain marks, tended to do so by naming the sensors needed. A minority of candidates were able to give an example, name the sensors and give advantages. The majority of candidates failed to give specific advantages of data logging and were giving general advantages of ICT.