GCSE

WJEC GCSE Digital Technology

Approved by Qualifications Wales

Sample Assessment Materials

Unit 1: The Digital World

Teaching from 2026
For award from 2028



This Qualifications Wales regulated qualification is not available to centres in England.

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Ready for the world.

WJEC would like to thank the students and teachers of Fitzalan High School, Cardiff and Llanwern High School, Newport for their participation in the creation of these covers.

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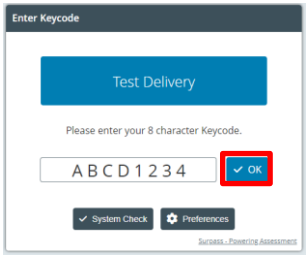
Unit 1: The Digital World

Unit 1: The Digital World is assessed by Digital Examination. The online Sample Assessment Materials can be accessed here: https://web.download.wjec.co.uk/surpass/packaged-exams/GCSE-Digital-Technology-Unit1-EN/index.html

Guidance for accessing the online Sample Assessment Materials is detailed in the following steps:

1. Click on the link provided:	
2. Click 'OK':	
3. Click 'Yes':	
4. Click 'Start the Test':	
5. To navigate through the assessment, click 'Back' or 'Next' at the bottom of the screen:	
6. Once the Sample Assessment Material has been viewed, close the tab or browser.	

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MARK SCHEME

Guidance for examiners

Generic marking principles

- Marks awarded are always whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).
- Answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.
- Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).
- Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Positive marking

It should be remembered that candidates are writing under examination conditions and credit should be given for what the candidate writes, rather than adopting the approach of penalising candidates for any omissions. It should be possible for a very good response to achieve full marks and a very poor one to achieve zero marks. Marks should not be deducted for a less than perfect answer if it satisfies the criteria of the mark scheme.

For questions that are objective or points-based, the mark scheme should be applied precisely. Marks should be awarded as indicated and no further subdivision made.

Mark schemes often list points which may be included in candidates' answers. The list is not exhaustive. The inclusion of *'Credit any other valid response.*' (or similar instruction) within mark schemes allows for the possible variation in candidates' responses. Credit should be given according to the accuracy and relevance of candidates' answers.

Appropriate terminology is reflected in exemplar responses in mark schemes. However, unless there is a specific requirement within a question, candidates may be awarded marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Banded mark schemes

For band marked questions, mark schemes are in two parts; the indicative content and the assessment grid.

The indicative content suggests the range of points and issues which may be included in candidates' answers. It can be used to assess the quality of the candidate's response. As noted above, indicative content is not intended to be exhaustive and candidates do not have to include all the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

However, to reach the highest level of the mark scheme a candidate must meet the requirements of the highest mark band. Where a response is not creditworthy, that is, it contains nothing of any significance to the mark scheme, or where no response has been provided, no marks should be awarded.

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The marking of banded mark questions should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate's response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.

Examiners should first read and annotate the candidate's answer to pick out the evidence that is being assessed in that question. The mark scheme can then be applied. This is done as a two-stage process.

Stage 1 – Deciding on the band

Beginning at the lowest band, examiners should look at the candidate's answer and check whether it matches the descriptors for that band. If the descriptors at the lowest band are satisfied, examiners should move up to the next band and repeat this process for each band until the descriptors most closely matches the work.

Stage 2 – Deciding on the mark

Having determined the appropriate band, deciding on the mark within a band will be made on the basis of a 'best fit' procedure, weaknesses in some areas being compensated for by strengths in others.

Examiners should use the full range of marks available to them. Marking should be positive, rewarding achievement rather that penalising failure or omissions. The awarding of marks must be directly related to the marking criteria, and all responses must be marked according to the banded levels provided for each question.

Standardising material that has already been awarded a mark will be provided during standardising and this should be used as a reference material when assessing work. Examiners are reminded of the need to revisit the standardising material as they apply the mark scheme in order to confirm that the band and the mark allocated is appropriate to the work submitted.

This mark scheme instructs examiners to look for and reward valid alternatives where indicative content is suggested for an answer. This is not a checklist for expected content in an answer, or set out as a 'model answer', as responses must be marked in the banded levels of response provided for each question. Where a candidate provides a response that contains aspects or approaches not included in the indicative content, examiners should use their professional judgement to determine the validity of the response in light of the task and reward as directed by the bands. Candidates are free to choose any approach that is relevant to the set task. Candidates can (and will most likely) incorporate ideas other than those mentioned in the mark scheme.

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<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Question</th><th colspan="2">Answer</th><th>AO1</th><th>AO2</th><th>AO3</th><th>Total Mark</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.</td><td>(a)</td><td colspan="6">Click two statements that correctly describe analogue and digital data.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td colspan="2">Award one mark for each correct answer up to a maximum of two marks:

<table><tr><th></th><th>Click</th></tr><tr><td>Digital data is stored using waveforms</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Analogue data is represented using binary digits</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Digital data is made up of discrete values such as 0s and 1s</td><td>Correct</td></tr><tr><td>Analogue data changes smoothly and continuously over time</td><td>Correct</td></tr><tr><td>Digital data cannot be copied or transmitted electronically</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Analogue data is only used in modern computing systems</td><td></td></tr></table></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>(b)</td><td colspan="6">Describe one way image data is stored in each of the following types of digital visual media:</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>(i)</td><td colspan="5">bitmap images</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>(ii)</td><td colspan="5">vector images</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Award one mark for each correct answer, up to a maximum of two marks

Indicative content

Bitmap images –
Stored as a grid of pixels, where each pixel is unique. (1)

Image data is stored as a grid of pixels. (1)

Each pixel is assigned a fixed colour value. (1)

Binary data is used to represent pixel colour, often in RGB (or CMYK). (1)

Bitmap images store data row by row, mapping each pixel’s position. (1)</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td></tr>
</table>

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			Vector images – Image data is stored as mathematical equations. (1) Shapes are defined using geometric primitives such as points, lines, curves and polygons. (1) Coordinates determine the position of each shape within the image. (1) Each object has properties such as stroke thickness, fill colour and gradients. (1) The computer calculates the image dynamically rather than storing pixel-by-pixel data. (1) Credit any other valid responses.				
2.	(a)	Match the storage mediums (on the left) to its correct data retrieval speed (on the right).					
		Award **one** mark for all storage mediums matched correctly: Fastest speed - SSD Medium speed - HDD Slowest speed - CD/DVD	1			1
	(b)	Explain **one** way data retrieval speed can impact business performance. Use a relevant example to support your answer.					
		Award **one** mark for a correct statement and **one** mark for a relevant example in the context of business performance, up to a to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content Faster data retrieval improves operational efficiency (1), allowing employees to access information quickly. (1) Slow data retrieval can lead to delays in decision-making (1), reducing business productivity. (1). Fast data access enhances customer service (1), enabling quicker response times to enquiries or orders. (1) Poor data retrieval speed may result in system downtime (1), affecting online transactions and services. (1) Businesses with fast data retrieval can process large volumes of data more efficiently (1), improving analytics and forecasting. (1) Credit any other valid responses.		2		2

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
3.	(a)	Explain **one** situation where lossless compression is more suitable than lossy compression.				
		Award a maximum of **one** mark for identifying a suitable situation. Award a maximum of **one** mark for explaining why lossless compressions is more suitable when compared to lossless. Indicative content Text Documents (1) – Lossless compression is more suitable because text files must retain exact characters without any loss of information. (1) Medical Imaging (1) – Lossless compression is more suitable because medical scans must remain fully accurate for analysis. (1) Software Files (1) – Lossless compression is more suitable as any missing data could cause errors or corruption. (1)		2		2
	(b)	Define the term compression ratio.				
		Award **one** mark for a correct definition up to a maximum of **one** mark. Indicative content: • The compression ratio is the ratio between the original file size and the compressed file size. • The compression ratio indicates how much the file size has been reduced during compression. Credit any other valid responses.	1			1

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Question			Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
4.	(a)	(i)	Describe **two** ways disk cleanup helps keep a computer system running efficiently.				
			Award **one** mark for each description relating to efficiency, up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: • Removes unnecessary files such as temporary files speeding things up. (1) • Frees up disk space by deleting system-generated temporary files for faster data access. (1) • Deletes old system logs and crash reports to prevent clutter. (1) • Clears out recycle bin contents to recover storage space. (1) Credit any other valid responses	2			2
		(ii)	Describe **two** ways defragmentation helps keep a computer system running efficiently.				
			Award **one** mark for each correct description, up to a maximum of **two** marks, per software. Indicative content**:** • Reorganises fragmented data on a hard drive which reduced the time the disk takes to access files. (1) • Consolidates stored data which reduces file access times. (1) • Helps group related data together which improves file opening responsiveness. (1) • Reduces the number of read/write operations needed which improves file opening responsiveness. (1) Credit any other valid responses.	2			2
	(b)		State **two** purposes of device drivers.				
			Award **one** mark for each correct purpose, up to a maximum of **two** marks. • Device drivers allow hardware to communicate with the operating system. (1) • Device drivers ensure hardware functions correctly by providing necessary instructions. (1) • Device drivers help the system recognise and use hardware components. (1) • Updates to device drivers can improve hardware compatibility. (1) Credit any other valid responses.	2			2

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<table>
<tr><td></td><td>(c)</td><td colspan="5">Outline two ways web browsers enhance usability for users.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>Award one mark for each correct answer, up to a maximum of two marks.

Indicative content:
• Web browsers provide a user-friendly interface for accessing websites. (1)
• They allow users to navigate between web pages easily. (1)
• Browsers support bookmarks, making it easier to access frequently visited sites. (1)
• Features like tabs enable users to open multiple pages at once. (1)

Credit any other valid responses.</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td></tr>
<tr><td>5.</td><td colspan="5">Use the drop-down lists to identify the definition that matches the backup strategy</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Award one mark for each correct answer:

<table><tr><th>Definition</th><th><u>Backup strategy</u></th></tr><tr><td>Multiple copies of the same file are stored at different points in time, allowing users to restore an older version if needed.</td><td>Versioning</td></tr><tr><td>Backups are performed automatically at set intervals, such as daily or weekly, to ensure data is consistently saved.</td><td>Regular scheduling</td></tr><tr><td>Data is stored in a different physical location or on a cloud-based system to protect against local data loss, such as hardware failure or natural disasters.</td><td>Offsite backup</td></tr></table></td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td></tr>
</table>

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
6.	(a)	Use the drop-down lists to identify the correct terms to complete the paragraph.				
		Award **one** mark for each correctly place answer, up to a maximum of **four** marks. A **switch** efficiently directs data between multiple devices within a local area network (LAN). To forward data packets between different networks, a **router** determines the best route based on destination IP addresses. When connecting two network segments, a **bridge** filters and forwards data using MAC addresses. Lastly, a **gateway** enables communication between networks that use different protocols, ensuring seamless data exchange.	4			4
	(b)	State **two** roles of protocols when transmitting data over the internet.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct role of protocols in the transmission of data over the internet, up to a maximum of **two** marks: • Ensures data is sent and received in the correct format. (1) • Allows different devices and systems to communicate effectively. (1) • Defines rules for how data is transmitted and structured. (1) • Manages error detection and correction to ensure reliable communication. (1) • Controls data flow to prevent congestion or data loss. (1) • Enables secure transmission of data across networks. (1)	2			2

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Question	Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
7.	Demonstrate ways in which social networking can impact on media ownership.		6		6

Indicative content

- User-generated content ownership: When individuals upload original content to social networking platforms such as Instagram or TikTok, they often agree to terms that grant the platform broad rights to use, modify or distribute the content sometimes without further permission or payment.
- Loss of exclusive control: Creators may still technically "own" their content, but the platform may legally share, promote or even monetise it, reducing the creator's ability to control how and where their work is used.
- Terms of service implications: Social networking platforms often include clauses in their user agreements that allow them to reuse content for promotional or commercial purposes, meaning the platform has partial rights over the media once uploaded.
- Corporate ownership influence: Content shared on social networking platforms can be subject to moderation, censorship, or removal based on company policies influencing what content is seen and who benefits from it.
- Revenue generation and platform benefit: Even when media is created by users, the platform may monetise it (e.g. through ads or licensing) and retain the majority of profits, highlighting a shift in who benefits from content ownership.
- Virality and replication: Once a piece of media goes viral on a social network, it may be widely copied, reshared, or adapted, often without credit to the original creator. This can blur the lines of ownership and raise copyright issues.

Credit any other valid responses.

Band	AO2
3	**5-6 marks** • Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of ways social networking can affect media ownership • Effective application of knowledge and understanding through relevant and developed examples of how media ownership may be impacted by platform policies
2	**3-4 marks** • Satisfactory knowledge and understanding of ways social networking can affect media ownership • Adequate application of knowledge and understanding through relevant examples of how media ownership may be impacted by platform policies
1	**1-2 marks** • Basic knowledge and understanding of ways social networking can affect media ownership • Superficial application of knowledge and understanding of how media ownership may be impacted by platform policies
0	No response worthy of credit.

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
8.	(a)	State **two** purposes of the Copyright Act 1988.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct purpose, up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: • Protects the rights of creators over their original work (1). • Prevents unauthorised copying, distribution or modification of copyrighted material. (1) • Gives creators legal control over how their work is used. (1) • Ensures that individuals or businesses must obtain permission before using copyrighted content. (1) Credit any other valid responses.	2			2
	(b)	State what G D P R stands for.				
		Award **one** mark for: General Data Protection Regulation (1)	1			1
	(c)	Give two provisions of GDPR.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct provision, up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: • The right to be informed • The right of access • The right to rectification • The right to be forgotten • The right to restrict processing • The right to data portability • The right to object • Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling. Credit any other valid responses.	2			2
	(d)	Give **two** penalties that a company may face for breaching GDPR.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct penalty, up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: • Fines • Legal action from affected individuals seeking compensation • Orders to stop processing personal data until compliance is achieved • Warnings and reprimands	2			2

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<table>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>

- Bans on data processing
- Orders to rectify or erase data
- Suspension of data transfers
- Increased regulatory scrutiny and mandatory audits.

Credit any other valid responses.

</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>(e)</td><td colspan="5">State the name of the act that matches to its purpose.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>

Award **one** mark for each correct act identified, up to a maximum of **three** marks.

<table>
<tr><th>Act</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>Online Safety Act</td><td>Aims to protect users, particularly children, from harmful online content by imposing stricter regulations on social media and tech companies.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Computer Misuse Act</td><td>Makes it an offence to gain unauthorised access to computer systems, spreading viruses, and illegally modifying data.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Investigatory Powers Act</td><td>Allows government agencies to monitor and intercept digital communications to protect national security and prevent serious crimes.</td></tr>
</table>

</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td></tr>
</table>

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
9.	(a)	Name a type of digital footprint.				
		Award **one** mark the correct answer Active Or Passive	1			1
	(b)	Discuss the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint on an individual's privacy and future opportunities.		6		6

Indicative content

Privacy:

- Oversharing online can expose personal data, increasing the risk of identity theft or fraud.
- Companies may track and profile users, using personal data for targeted ads or selling it to third parties.
- A poorly managed digital footprint can lead to losing control over who accesses your personal information, increasing the risk of misuse.
- Oversharing or inappropriate content can make individuals vulnerable to online harassment or cyberbullying, affecting their privacy and mental well-being.
- Certain online behaviour can lead to legal issues, such as sharing defamatory content or violating privacy laws.

Future opportunities:

- Employers may check social media profiles and reject candidates based on unprofessional content, impacting job prospects.
- Negative content shared online can harm an individual's reputation and result in missed opportunities.
- Once harmful content is posted, it's hard to remove, making it difficult to rebuild a professional reputation.
- A poor digital presence could cause individuals to miss out on professional connections or opportunities for collaboration.

Credit any other valid responses.

Band	AO2
3	**5-6 marks** • comprehensive discussion of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint on an individual's privacy and future opportunities • effective application of knowledge and understanding of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint on an individual's privacy and future
2	**3-4 marks** • satisfactory discussion of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint on an individual's privacy and future opportunities • adequate application of knowledge and understanding of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint on an individual's privacy or future opportunities

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1	**1-2 marks** • basic discussion of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint • superficial application of knowledge and understanding of the impact of failing to manage a digital footprint
0	No response worthy of credit.

Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
9.	(c)	State **two** strategies someone could use to manage their digital footprint.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct answer up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: • Adjust privacy settings (1) • Think before posting (1) • Regularly review online activity (1) • Use strong passwords (1) • Avoid oversharing (1) • Search your name online to monitor what information is publicly available (1) Credit any other valid response.	2			2

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Question	Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
10.	An online streaming service is considering using Artificial Intelligence (AI) models to provide personalised recommendations for its users. Explain the purpose of AI personal recommendations and how it could impact on both the online streaming service and its users.		8		8

Indicative content

Purpose of AI personal recommendations:

- AI uses past user behaviour, preferences and interactions with the platform to recommend content tailored to individual tastes.
- AI algorithms analyse large data sets to predict content that a user is most likely to enjoy or engage with.
- The goal is to improve user satisfaction by providing content that aligns with users' interests.
- AI can help users discover new content they may not have found through traditional browsing, expanding their entertainment options.

Impact on the online streaming service:

- Personalised recommendations encourage users to spend more time on the platform, increasing engagement.
- AI ensures that relevant content is delivered to users, which keeps them returning to the platform regularly.
- By reducing time spent searching for content, AI makes the platform more user-friendly, enhancing the overall service experience.
- More engaging content, coupled with efficient recommendations, can lead to higher user retention, subscription renewals and increased revenue for the service.
- Employing a data scientist to build algorithms/ purchasing and maintaining large volumes of cloud storage can be very expensive

Impact on users:

- AI-driven recommendations help users easily find content that matches their preferences, leading to a more satisfying experience.
- AI can introduce users to new shows, movies or music they may not have discovered otherwise, expanding their entertainment horizons.
- A personalised and enjoyable experience may encourage users to stay with the service, preventing them from switching to competitors and increasing the likelihood of subscription renewals.
- The tailored experience may incentivise users to lock into longer contracts with the streaming service, increasing user loyalty.
- Some users may not be aware of the amount of data that is being collected and stored, it may raise a privacy concern for users.

Credit any other valid responses.

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Band	AO2
4	**7-8 marks** • comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the purpose of AI recommendations • effective application of knowledge and understanding of the potential impact of AI
3	**5-6 marks** • satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the potential positive and negative impact of AI. • adequate application of knowledge and understanding the potential impact of AI on workers and business, however there may be an imbalance.
2	**3-4 marks** • basic knowledge and understanding of the potential positive and/or negative impact of AI • superficial application of knowledge and understanding the potential impact of AI on workers and/or business
1	**1-2 marks** • limited explanation of knowledge and understanding of the potential positive or negative impact of AI • minimal application of knowledge and understanding of the potential impact of AI on workers or business
0	No response worthy of credit

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
11.	(a)	Give **two** factors that determine the reliability of online sources. For each factor give **one** related example.				
		Award **one** mark for each correct factors up to a maximum of **two** marks. Award **one** mark for each suitable example of factors up to a maximum of **two** marks. Indicative content: **Factor** A reliable source should present factual and unbiased information. **Example** A government website. **Factor** The qualifications and expertise of the author can determine reliability. **Example** A medical article written by a qualified doctor. **Factor** A reliable source should reference other credible sources. **Example** A research paper adds credibility to its claims. **Factor** Academic sources that undergo peer review are more Reliable. **Example** A peer-reviewed journal like the British Journal of Psychology. **Factor** Information should be up to date. **Example** A cybersecurity guide published in 2024 is more reliable than one from 2010. **Factor** Well-known and established sources are more reliable. **Example** BBC is considered more trustworthy than an unverified social media post. Credit any other valid responses.	4			4

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Question		Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
11.	(b)	Explain the importance of fact-checking and domain analysis when evaluating the reliability of online sources for a school assignment.		6		6

Indicative content

Fact checking

- Fact-checking helps verify the information from online sources against other reputable materials, such as textbooks or official websites.
- For a school assignment, this helps confirm that the information you're using is accurate and not misleading.
- For example, if an online article makes a claim about a historical event, fact-checking would involve cross-referencing this claim with trusted history textbooks or academic sources to ensure it is correct.

Domain analysis

- Domain analysis helps evaluate the credibility of the website where the information comes from.
- For a school assignment, sources from domains like .edu (educational institutions) or .gov (government websites) can indicate a more reliable source than a commercial or user-generated site (e.g., .com, personal blogs).
- For example, domain analysis might reveal that a .gov source is government-published and therefore more likely to be accurate, while a .com site may reflect commercial interests or personal opinion, requiring further scrutiny.

Credit any other valid responses.

Band	AO2
3	**5-6 marks** • Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of fact-checking and domain analysis to evaluate the reliability of online sources • Effective application of knowledge and understanding of fact-checking and domain analysis to evaluate the reliability of online sources for a school assignment
2	**3-4 marks** • Satisfactory knowledge and understanding of fact-checking and domain analysis to evaluate the reliability of online sources • Adequate application of knowledge and understanding of fact-checking and domain analysis to evaluate the reliability of online sources for a school assignment
1	**1-2 marks** • Basic knowledge and understanding of fact-checking or domain analysis to evaluate the reliability of online sources • Superficial application of fact-checking or domain analysis in the context of a school assignment to evaluate the reliability of online sources
0	No response worthy of credit

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Question	Answer	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total Mark
12.	Demonstrate how changing working practices in digital systems has impacted on business. You should consider the following in your response: • automation and efficiency • hardware and software requirements.		10		10

Indicative content

Automation and efficiency:

- Increased efficiency: automation speeds up routine tasks, such as stock tracking in retail, reducing the need for manual input and minimising human error.
- Cost reduction: AI tools like customer service chatbots handle large volumes of queries without human involvement, saving on staffing costs.
- Improved productivity: automated systems allow tasks to be completed quicker, increasing overall output and enhancing customer experience.

Hardware and software requirements:

- Remote collaboration: tools like Microsoft 365 and cloud platforms support flexible working, letting staff work from different locations while accessing shared files.
- Reduced infrastructure costs: cloud computing eliminates the need for on-site servers, helping businesses save money on physical infrastructure.
- Ongoing investment: new working practices require continuous updates to hardware and software, which can involve high initial costs and regular licensing or maintenance expenses.
- Training needs: as systems evolve, staff must be trained to use new software, which takes time and additional budget.

Overall business impact:

- Improved competitiveness: digital systems help businesses stay ahead by responding faster to market demands and working more efficiently.
- Profitability risks: although automation and modern technology improve operations, the costs of implementation and upkeep can reduce overall profits if not managed carefully.

Band	AO2
5	**9-10 marks** • Comprehensive and detailed knowledge and understanding of the impact of changing working practice on business • Detailed and focused examples of how automation and efficiency and hardware and software requirements have impacted on business
4	**7-8 marks** • Broad and with some detailed knowledge and understanding of the impact of changing working practice on business • Some detailed examples of how automation and efficiency and hardware and software requirements have impacted on business

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3	**5-6 marks** • General knowledge and understanding of the impact of changing working practice on business • General examples of how automation and efficiency and hardware and software requirements have impacted on business
2	**3-4 marks** • Basic knowledge and understanding of the impact of changing working practice on business • Basic examples of how automation and efficiency or hardware and software requirements have impacted on business
1	**1-2 marks** • Limited knowledge and understanding of the impact of changing working practice • Minimal appropriate examples of how automation or efficiency or hardware and software requirements have impacted on business
0	No response worthy of credit

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Mapping of questions to specification content and assessment objectives: Unit 1

Question			Mark Allocation																								
			Topic and Section																							Total Marks	AO1 Marks	AO2 Marks	AO3 Marks
			1.1		1.2						1.3			1.4			1.5				1.6						
			1.1.1	1.1.2	1.2.1	1.2.2	1.2.3	1.2.4	1.2.5	1.2.6	1.3.1	1.3.2	1.3.3	1.4.1	1.4.2	1.4.3	1.5.1	1.5.2	1.5.3	1.5.4	1.6.1	1.6.2	1.6.3				
1	(a)			2																				2	**2**		
	(b)	(i)		1																				1	**1**		
	(b)	(ii)		1																				1	**1**		
2	(a)		1																					1	**1**		
	(b)		2																					2		**2**	
3.	(a)			2																				2		**2**	
	(b)			1																				1	**1**		
4	(a)	(i)					2																	2	**2**		
		(ii)					2																	2	**2**		
	(b)						2																	2	**2**		
	(c)						2																	2	**2**		
5								3																3	**3**		
6	(a)				4																			4	**4**		

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	(b)				2																			2	**2**		
7											6													6		**6**	
8	(a)																		2					2	**2**		
	(b)																		1					1	**1**		
	(c)																		2					2	**2**		
	(d)																		2					2	**2**		
	(e)																		3					3	**3**		
9	(a)																	1						1	**1**		
	(b)																	6						6		**6**	
	(c)																	2						2	**2**		
10																						8		8		**8**	
11	(a)											4												4	**4**		
	(b)											6												6		**6**	
12														10										10		**10**	
Total marks																								**80**	**40**	**40**	

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