

BCS Higher Education Qualification

Diploma

October 2022

EXAMINERS' REPORT TEMPLATE

Systems Analysis & Design

General comments¹

Most candidates were able to answer the questions they chose. Where candidates lost marks, this was usually due to poor application of techniques related to the case study.

Questions Report:

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| A1 | Syllabus mapping: 2.7 & 3.1 This was a popular question. More than 50% of candidates achieved a pass mark. Many answers for part (a) were reasonable and candidates were able to draw a logical top level DFD. Some candidates however produced the context DFD instead and some used incorrect notation. Part (b) Many candidates produced a sufficient Use Case Diagram. Some candidates however identified too many 'small' use cases. Only a few candidates were able to answer the second part of this question concerning Use Case Elaboration. Part (c). This part caused many problems and the answers, in general, were insufficient. |
| A2 | Syllabus mapping: 5 This question was the least popular question in Part A. Significantly less than 50% of candidates achieved a pass mark. Part (a) was answered sufficiently well. In general the discussion of object-oriented approach was better. Part (b) caused problems. Many candidates were able to identify the steps, but unable to identify the deliverables associated with each step. |
| A3 | Syllabus mapping: 1.2 This question was the most popular question in Part A and significantly more than 50% of candidates achieved a pass mark. Part (a) was answered sufficiently well. In general, the answers concerning both the Business Analysts and Systems Architects were better than the answer concerning Systems Analysts. Part (b). Many candidates focussed on stakeholders only i.e., they did not sufficiently explain the role of Stakeholder Analysis. |

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| B4 | Syllabus mapping: 3.4 & 4.1 |
| | This was a popular question attempted by 63% of candidates with an average mark of 64%. Most candidates understood the idea of normalisation although some answers were a bit muddled. The entity models were generally well-presented. |
| B5 | Syllabus mapping: 5.2 |
| | This was a very popular question being attempted by over 70% of candidates with an average mark of 56%. Most candidates were able to give appropriate examples of the different types of relationship and there were some lengthy descriptions of the different kinds of data validation. |
| B6 | Syllabus mapping: 5.4 |
| | The least popular question in Part B being attempted by 54% of candidates with an average mark of 65%. Most candidates were able to draw the statechart. The sequence diagram proved more problematic; some candidates did not attempt this part of the question, and some produced an activity or a collaboration diagram instead of a sequence diagram. |

Additional Examiner comments:

We encourage students to revise the relevant topics in a more thorough manner, especially the application of various techniques in practice.

Many candidates had problems with the practical application of analysis techniques such as DFDs, Use case Diagrams etc.