

**BCS THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT**

BCS HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS  
BCS Level 6 Professional Graduate Diploma in IT

**MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 - Afternoon**

Answer **any** THREE questions out of FIVE. All questions carry equal marks.  
Time: THREE hours

**Answer any Section A questions you attempt in Answer Book A**  
**Answer any Section B questions you attempt in Answer Book B**

The marks given in brackets are **indicative** of the weight given to each part of the question.

Calculators are <b>NOT</b> allowed in this examination
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**[Turn Over]**

**Section A**  
**Answer Section A questions in Answer Book A**

**A1.** You are the IS manager of a medium sized company with around 500 staff. A recent consultancy report has proposed that the HR system you currently operate in-house should be outsourced to, and hosted by, a major application provider.

a) Discuss THREE arguments for or against this proposal with the aid of suitable examples.

**(15 marks)**

b) The senior management has decided to implement the proposal. Write a report to the senior management detailing how you could minimise the risk to the company during the transition process. Demonstrate your suggestions in the report with appropriate examples.

**(10 marks)**

**A2.** At a recent meeting, where information strategy was being discussed, the Head of MIS for a major organisation you work for was quoted as saying '*No single employee should ever have complete access to the full MIS data of the organisation*'.

a) Discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement. You should provide THREE reasons, with examples, to support your case.

**(15 marks)**

b) In the form of an article for the company newsletter, describe the policy you believe the company should adopt regarding the future access to MIS data.

**(10 marks)**

**A3.**

a) Describe the concepts of Management Reporting Systems, Decision Support Systems and Office Information Systems.

**(15 marks)**

b) Discuss how Decision Support Systems and Group Decision Support Systems differ in practical terms.

**(10 marks)**

**[Turn Over]**

**Section B**  
**Answer Section B questions in Answer Book B**

**B4.** *'Information must be timely, relevant and accurate'.*

a) Discuss what is meant by the above statement.

**(7 marks)**

b) Identify and justify THREE concepts/technologies that enable today's MIS to provide timely, relevant and accurate information.

**(18 marks)**

**B5.**

a) With the aid of examples, explain EACH of the following concepts found within On-line Analytical Processing (OLAP) Tools:

- (i) Data cube.
- (ii) Drill down.
- (iii) Roll up.
- (iv) Slice and Dice.

**(12 marks)**

b) Assess, with suitable justification, the usefulness of star and snowflake schema designs to the development of an OLAP-based multi-dimensional data mart. Include an overview of star and snowflake schema designs as part of your answer.

**(13 marks)**

**End of Exam**