

BCS Higher Education Qualification

Diploma

November 2020

EXAMINERS' REPORT

Principles of Internet Technologies (Part B)

General comments¹:

In general, the candidates' performances clearly illustrate that they had a good subject knowledge appropriate to the specification, and the majority of candidates were prepared for the rigor of the examination. Furthermore, the variety of questions gave them the chance to select the favourite areas and respond, even though it could be complicated in some cases. However, it was grateful to see good answers being provided for the question, unfortunately as a topic is still proving difficult for some candidate. And it is very important that, when answering questions, candidates read the rubric very carefully and try to answer the question in the appropriate manner. The candidates should be commended on the strength of their coding answers and how they applied their knowledge to the questions. Candidates with low marks would be advised to look again at the basic concepts covered in the syllabus.

Questions Report:

Qu.	Comment
A1	
a)	This question was generally well answered with most students having a good understanding of what programming concepts were involved.
b)(i)	Candidates who answered this managed to explain it well.
(b) (ii)	There were several candidates who did not seem to grasp how to answer this question properly. Some answers were too general in approach.
(c)	No real understanding of a basic concept, candidates did not score well here.
A2	
a)(i)	Some broad knowledge of the topic here. Generally, this was answered well.
a)(ii)	However, when it came to a more in depth look at the topic in (a)(i) candidates were not able to demonstrate their knowledge as well as they should have.
(b)	Answered poorly with answers, candidates did not seem to know such a basic web design concept.
(c)	Candidates got good marks for the question and answered the question in depth.

(d)	This question was not answered well and candidates seemed to focus on “broad” accessibility and not accessibility in terms of websites.
(e)	There were some good answers here and candidates who attempted the question knew what they were talking about.
A3	
a)	There was a broad understanding of what XML was, but most candidates were unable to relate it to JSON. So, this question was not answered particularly well.
b)	Candidates scored high marks here and were able to provide a good definition.
c)	This question split candidates down the middle. Some knew exactly what it was, and others attempted to apply more general concepts to the answer.
d)	Candidates did well here and scored highly as a result.
e)(i)	Not answered well, it was not a topic that candidates seemed to know about.
e(ii)	And this was seen in the follow up question, candidates applied far too general concepts to the answer.

Qu. ¹	Comment
B4	
a)	Candidates scored good marks on this question and many of them relatively well answered this question and were able to describe the abbreviated words while those who could not answer some part, missed a few details.
b)	Many candidates relatively well answered the first part of this question but for the second and third parts, a number of candidates did not realize what they should describe and draw the relative diagram.
c)	Most candidates were able to answer this question however a small number of them faced some difficulty to answer this part or missed some parts.
B5	
a)	A small number of the candidates came to this part (B5) and most of them answered this question poorly especially when they should be drawn the diagram and unable to describe them in the detail required at this level.
b)	Most of the candidates answered this question poorly and did not realize what they should be described.
c)	This question was answered by candidates however some of them could not explain and realized that communication technologies with their maximum statistics.
B6	
a)	Most of the candidates scored good marks on this question, however, a small number of them lacked sufficient detail to score all the marks. It should be noted that this question contains some different parts (5 parts) and most of the candidates had a problem with parts 4 and 5 when they should be drawn a diagram and describe it in more detail.

b)	Candidates got a good mark on this question, but in some parts especially part 2 their answers lacked sufficient detail to score complete marks.
----	--

Appendix – feedback to BCS

Feedback to BCS is not published and is removed from the form before publishing. This allows direct feedback from examiners on anything that is out of scope for public feedback.

Examiner comments:

It was a great chance to review the examination papers this year. Provision of exam papers with and without key answers was very useful and I would like to continue with this.
Also, it would be useful for new examiners to be provided with a broad outline of the syllabus that is being examined in these exams, with the associated learning objectives included.
The help given to me as an external examiner by the Chairman of Examiners has been excellent. Furthermore, All the thing has organized very well, and I am grateful for his prompt attention to this matter.

Any actions taken or suggested:

Nothing that comes to mind, only part that might be helpful for the examiner is to have more pre meeting with other team member to get full onboard.