

BCS Higher Education Qualification

Diploma

October 2021

EXAMINERS' REPORT

Systems Analysis and Design

General comments

There were no significant issues with this paper; no particularly unpopular questions, and no questions that gave rise to particularly poor answers.

Question number: A1

Syllabus area: 2.7; 3.6;

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

A large number of candidates attempted this question.

Many candidates presented very good answers. However, some candidates lost marks due to a poorly presented or constructed DFD, and some did not explain the notations for activity diagrams, or confused these with state machines.

Question number: A2

Syllabus area: 3.1; 3.3

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

A large number of candidates attempted this question.

Many candidates presented very good and successful answers. The main reason for losing marks were that some candidates did not answer Part C, which required Use Case elaboration.

Question number: A3

Syllabus area: 2.2; 2.8

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

This was the most popular question among candidates.

Many candidates presented very good and successful answers. The main reasons for losing marks were that some candidates did not discuss throw-away prototype in the context of requirements gathering.

Question number: B4

Syllabus area: 4.2; 4.5

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

Another popular question attempted by the majority of candidates.

Many candidates presented very good and successful answers. The main reasons for losing marks were that some candidates did not attempt Part B, which required an explanation of how inheritance hierarchies can be mapped to relational tables.

Question number: B5

Syllabus area: 5.1; 5.3; 5.4

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

A popular question among candidates.

Many candidates presented very good answers. The main reasons for losing marks were that some candidates did not attempt to draw a sequence diagram and did not clearly distinguish these from communication diagrams.

Question number: B6

Syllabus area: 5.4

Total marks allocated: 25

Examiners' Guidance Notes

This was the most unpopular question.

The majority of those who did answer it presented very good answers. The main reason for losing marks was that some candidates did not attempt Part B which required candidates to discuss the relationship between dynamic models.