

Examiner Report	
Qualification Name	Higher Education Qualification
Qualification Level	Professional Graduate Diploma
Date/ Series	April 2026
Module	Advanced Database Management Systems
Question no.	Comments
A1	75 % of candidates answered this with 66% of those passing the question. In Part A, there were generally sensible answers but a lack of identifying prediction as on key capability, a lack of detail when discussing application in a chosen area, and much talk about general security of data but little about masking and other concrete and relevant techniques. Most could describe basics of ETL in part b, but again answers lacked details, e.g. about different types of data. In Part C, most could state the difference to ELT, but very few answered where it is preferable.
Question no.	Comments
A2	60% of candidates answered this question, with 33% of those passing. Most candidates only gave partial answers ignoring parts or sub questions. Part A required a query tree which was generally ok, but it also required rewritten queries in SQL which very few attempted. In Part B many defined the concept of a FK but did not discuss how it helps with performance. General concepts of indexing (Part C) were understood, but examples of where indexing is counter productive were lacking, with even those who gave some not identifying high frequency of changes as an issue.
Question no.	Comments
A3	Almost all candidates attempted this question, and 66% of those passed. Part A was generally answered well at a high level, but many answers lacked detail on the areas asked for (e.g. data in transit vs stationary). On the audit aspect some answers focused

	on software engineering for safer systems rather than audits of systems – audits are not testing! Part B on views was often not answered, but where it was it was generally as required; some answers did not include the query part in the SQL for view creation though.
Question no.	Comments
B4	33% of candidates answered this question and about 50% passed the question. Part A on OO databases lacked understanding of applying OO concepts to the example and very few candidates explained advantages of an OO DB in the context provided (e.g. the point that OO is good for complex relationships and that it holds data and behaviours together). Some candidates were unclear on relations between data items, while some invented additional data fields and objects that were not required in the question. For Part B most could explain concept of data replication but not many provided details with the example.
Question no.	Comments
B5	66% of candidates attempted the question but less than 20% of those succeeded. This was generally driven by most candidates not answering all questions. The question on triggers was answered by some with the basics, but answers lacked details. Some candidates showed very little understanding of the notion of triggers and stored procedures. In Part B, answers to database recovery were not always convincing. Some candidates said that implementing ACID will avoid the problem (ACID cannot prevent disk failure!), and many answers spoke at length about backups, but most did not consider the steps involved in recovery. There were a few perfect answers also.