A-level Computer Science
Paper 1
June 2023

Advice on using the Paper 1 Electronic Answer Document (EAD)[1]

Centres may give a copy of this Advice document to candidates at any time, including during the exam.

There is a specific EAD for each programming language. Please ensure the candidates use the correct one for the language they are entered for. **The front cover of each EAD will specify the language being used by the candidate.** The remainder of the document is the same for all candidates.

> 7517/1A – C#
> 7517/1B – JAVA
> 7517/1C – PASCAL/DELPHI
> 7517/1D – PYTHON
> 7517/1E – VB.NET

The EAD is provided by AQA to centres as a Microsoft® Word (2003) document. Candidates must type their answers to the Paper 1 Question Paper into the EAD on-screen.

A   In advance of the exam

- Candidates may, in advance of the exam, complete the details on the front cover of the Electronic Answer Document (EAD) **and** in the footer of page 2 (and any subsequent pages). This should be saved to the individual candidate's user area of the secure network.

  If candidates are to complete the EAD in this way, **the centre is responsible** for ensuring that no other information is typed into the EAD in advance of the exam.

- Centres must ensure that candidates know:

  – where they are to save the work they do during the exam
  – what file format to use
  – the name format in which to save their work
  – about the role of the Print Monitor
  – how to resize a screen capture (screen dump/screen shot) to ensure the examiner can read it with ease.

- The Paper 1 exam is not a test of candidates' typing or word processing skills, but centres are strongly encouraged to ensure that their candidates are familiar with the EAD before the exam. Candidates are free to practise **using a copy** of it before the exam.

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[1] Appendix 1: *'Advice on using the Paper 1 Electronic Answer Document (EAD)'* is available as a separate document on Centre Services

B   What to do if the EAD fails for any reason

- When printing the EAD, if it appears to have page breaks in inappropriate places, check whether the margin size on the default printer needs changing. The margins used for the original EAD are: Top – 2 cm; Bottom – 2.5 cm; Left – 2 cm; Right – 2 cm.

- Do not be concerned if the AQA logo does not appear or is misshapen when the EAD is printed out.

- If your centre's word processing software is not compatible with Microsoft® Word (2003), you should ask candidates to type their answers into a blank document ensuring that the **front page prominently** carries the following information:

    – A-level Computer Science Paper 1 exam, June 2023
    – Centre Number
    – Candidate Number
    – Candidate Name
    – Programming Language used
    – at the end of the exam, the candidate's signature.

- **Each subsequent page must also** carry the following personal information of the candidate in a footer (either typed in or written by hand):

    – Centre Number
    – Candidate Name
    – Candidate Number.

- Each answer **must** be clearly numbered. Leave at least one blank line between each question, including each part question, and leave a right-hand margin on each page of approximately 3 cm.

- All pages must be securely attached together with a staple or tie in the top left-hand corner.

C   Responding to programming questions in the EAD

- Candidates **must** ensure that all of their code (every line and the full length of every line) for the relevant question is copied into the EAD in a format that can easily be read by an examiner.

- When asked to supply program source code, candidates should copy and paste the lines of code from their development environment into their EAD or, if this is not possible, they can use screen captures (screen dumps/screen shots), always ensuring that all of their code (every line and the full length of every line) is copied and can be easily read by an examiner.

- Instructions on using screen captures can be found below.

- If candidates copy and paste their lines of code into the EAD, they must ensure that all formatting remains the same as in their development environment. If any of the formatting is changed so that it would alter the way the program works, candidates may not be able to access all of the marks for the question.

D   Using screen captures (screen dumps/screen shots) in the EAD

- Paste the screen capture into a cell of the EAD.

- If only part of the capture shows up in the cell:

  1. select the cell in which the screen capture appears
  2. select the screen capture
  3. set the 'Wrap Text' option to 'in Front of Text'
  4. expand the cell in the EAD by pressing the return key on the keyboard enough times until the cell is big enough to show the whole screen capture. Crop the screen capture if necessary, but ensure the examiner will be able to read it easily.

- If the above should fail, candidates should be advised to:

  1. paste any screen capture into a blank Word document and save it using a suitable filename
  2. print this document with a footer containing the Centre Number, Candidate Number and Candidate Name (or write them on by hand after printing)
  3. insert the question part number
  4. attach the document to the printed EAD in the relevant place, leaving a reference in the corresponding cell of the EAD to advise the examiner to look for a supplementary handout containing a screen capture.