Mock Exam

iSAQB[®] Certified Professional for Software Architecture – Foundation Level (CPSA-F[®])

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Explanations to the mock exam Certified Professional for Software Architecture - Foundation Level (CPSA-F®)

This examination is a mock exam, which is based on the certification exam of the Certified Professional for Software Architecture - Foundation Level (CPSA-F®) in form and scope. It serves to illustrate the real iSAQB® CPSA® examination as well as to prepare for the corresponding exam.

The mock exam consists of 39 multiple-choice questions, which can be evaluated with 1 or 2 points depending on the level of difficulty. At least 60 percent must be achieved to pass the exam. 50.0 points can be achieved in this mock examination, you would need 30.0 points to pass.

The following general rules apply: Correct answers result in plus points, incorrect answers result in a deduction of points, but only with regard to the respective question. If the wrong answer to a question leads to a negative score, this question is evaluated with a total of 0 points.

The multiple-choice questions of the mock exam are divided into three types of questions:

A-Questions (Single Choice, Single Correct Answer):

Select the only correct answer to a question from the list of possible answers. There is only one correct answer. You receive the specified score for selecting the correct answer. Depending on the level of difficulty, you can achieve a score of 1 or 2 points.

P-Questions (Pick-from-many, Pick Multiple):

Select the number of correct answers given in the text from the list of possible answers to a question. Select just as many answers as are required in the introductory text. You receive 1/n of the total points for each correct answer. For each incorrect cross, 1/n of the points are deducted. The score is 1 or 2 points depending on the level of difficulty.

K-Questions (Allocation Questions, Choose Category):

For a question, select the correct of the two options for each answer choice ("correct" or "incorrect" or "applicable" or "not applicable"). You will receive 1/n of the points for each correctly placed cross. Incorrectly placed crosses result in the deduction of 1/n of the points. If NO answer is selected in a line, there are neither points nor deductions. The score is 1 or 2 points depending on the level of difficulty.

For a more detailed explanation of the question types and scoring system, further information is available in the <u>CPSA-F examination guide</u>.

The processing time is 75 minutes for native speakers and 90 minutes for non-native speakers. In order to ensure that the preparation for the exam is as authentic as possible, the processing time should be adhered to and any aids (such as seminar materials, books, internet, etc.) should not be used.

The exam can subsequently be evaluated using the solution for this mock exam.

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However, it is explicitly prohibited to use these exam questions in a real examination.



Que	estion	A-Question: Select one option.	1 point
ID: Q	-20-04-	01	
How	many d	efinitions of "software architecture" exist?	
	(a)	Exactly one for all kinds of systems.	
	(b)	One for every kind of software system (e.g. "embedded", "real-time", "decisi support", "web", "batch",).	ion
	(c)	A dozen or more different definitions.	
Que	estion	2 P-Question: Choose the three best aspects.	1 point
ID: Q	-20-04-	02	
Whic	h THRE	E of the following aspects are covered by the term "software architecture"?	
		3 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	(a)	Components.	
	(b)	Cross cutting concepts.	
	(c)	(internal and external) interfaces.	
	(d)	Database schemata.	
	(e)	Hardware Sizing.	
	estion		2 points
ID: Q	-17-13-	01	
Whic	h FOUR	of the following statements about (crosscutting) concepts are most appropr	iate?
	(a)	Uniform usage of concepts reduces coupling between building blocks.	
	(b)	The definition of appropriate concepts ensures the pattern compliance of t architecture.	he
	(c)	Uniform exception handling is most easily achieved when architects agree developers upon a suitable concept prior to implementation.	with
	(d)	For each quality goal there should be an explicitly documented concept.	
	(e)	Concepts are a means to increase consistency.	
	(f)	A concept can define constraints for the implementation of many building	blocks.
	(g)	A concept might be implemented by a single building block.	



Ques	Question 4 K-Question: Select "Appropriate" or "Not appropriate" for each line.						
ID: Q-1	2 points D: Q-17-13-02						
softwa	In your project, three architects and seven developers are working on the documentation of the software architecture. Which methods are appropriate in order to achieve a consistent and adequate documentation, and which are not?						
Approp	oriate	Not appropriate					
		□ (a)	The chief architect creates the documentation.				
		□ (b)	Identical templates are used for the documentation.				
		□ (c)	All parts of the documentation are automatically extracted from the source code.				
Ques		<u> </u>	Choose the four best options.	1 point			
Which buildin		_	niques are best suited to illustrate the interaction of runti	me			
	(a)	Flowcharts.					
	(b)	Activity Diagrams.					
	(c)	Depiction of screen	flows (sequence of user interactions).				
	(d)	Sequence diagram.					
	(e)	Linear Venn diagran	n.				
	(f)	Numbered list of se	quential steps.				
	(g)	Tabular description	of interfaces.				
	(h)	Class diagrams.					



Ques	tion 6	ı	P-Question: Choose the two best options.	1 point						
ID: Q-17-13-04										
Which	THREE	of the	following principles apply to testing?							
	(a)	In gen	eral, exhaustive testing is not possible.							
	(b)	In com	components with many known previous errors, the chances for additional errors e high.							
	(c)	Suffici	ent testing can show that a program is free of errors.							
	(d)	Testin	g can only show the existence of errors.							
	(e)	Functi	onal programming does not allow automated testing.							
Ques	tion 7	'	K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points						
ID: Q-	17-13-0	5								
	of the f are fals		ng statements regarding the design principle 'information hiding' are true	e and						
True	False									
		(a)	Adhering to the "information hiding principle" increases flexibility for modifications.							
		(b)	Information hiding involves deliberately hiding information from caller consumers of the building block.	s or						
		(c)	Information hiding makes it harder to distinguish between interface ar implementation.	nd						
		(d)	Information hiding is a derivative of the approach of incremental refine along the control flow.	ement						
		(e)	In object-oriented development, information hiding is primarily relevant class level.	t at						
	tion 8		P-Question: Choose the two best options.	1 point						
ID: Q-2	20-04-0	3								
What	are the T	FWO mo	ost important goals of software architecture?							
	(a)	Improv	ve accuracy of patterns in structure and implementation.							
	(b)	Achiev	ve quality requirements in a comprehensible way.							
	(c)	Enable	e cost-effective integration and acceptance tests of the system.							
	(d)		nable cost-effective integration and acceptance tests of the system. nable a basic understanding of structures and concepts for the development team nd other stakeholders.							



Question 9			K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points		
ID: Q-	20-04-1	12				
			osition of a software architect for a large business application in the b . Which of the following statements is true and which is false?	anking		
True	False					
		(a)	Your architecture should be structured in a way that allows changes corresponding business processes without requiring extensive restruction of the software architecture.			
		(b)	Required product qualities should drive your architectural decisions.			
☐ ☐ (c) To be independent of the infrastructure you should decide your key softwar architecture structure before infrastructure architects select the hardware confirmatructure for a product.						
	□ □ (d) Your software architecture should foresee changes in technology (i.e. new UI-frameworks, different deployment strategies, new peripheral devices) and only require local adaptation when it happens.					
Ques	stion 1	10	P-Question: Choose the three most important responsibilities.	2 points		
ID: Q-	20-04-0	06				
	are you ements		E most important responsibilities as a software architect with respect	to		
	(a)	Help t	he business people to express quality requirements in a way that can l.	be		
	(b)	Help t	o identify new business opportunities based on your technology know	<i>ı</i> -how.		
	(c)	Reject	business requirements that contain technical risks.			
	(d)		te business requirements in a terminology that can be understood by yopment team.	<i>y</i> our		
	(e)	Check	requirements for technological feasibility.			



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	stion 1		P-Question: Choose the three most important action items.	1 point
ID: Q-	20-04-0	07		
	ng requ		e as an architect for keeping a legacy system up and running accord nts of your business. What are the THREE most important action ite	
	(a)	Nego	otiating the maintenance budget for your team.	
	(b)	Assu	ring up-to-date documentation of the deployed system.	
	(c)	Analy	yzing the impact of new requirements on the current system.	
	(d)	Enco	uraging the team members to learn new programming languages.	
	(e)		jesting technology updates in addition to the business requirement agement.	s to your
Ques	stion 1	12	K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points
ID: Q-	20-04-0	08		
			sible architect for one product in a product family. The product family architect. Select which of the following statements is true or fals	
True	False			
		(a)	You have to accept constraints that apply to the whole product for your product.	amily also for
		(b)	Since parts of this product family are separately sellable product product is not bound to the constraints of the suite.	ts, your
		(c)	You should have regular meetings with your fellow product archi family architect to negotiate common quality requirements and o	
		(d)	You can negotiate deviations from quality requirements that hav defined for the overall suite with the suite architect.	e been



Ques	tion 1	3	K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	1 point			
ID: Q-2	20-04-0)9					
Decide	e for ea	ch of th	e following statements whether it is true or false.				
True	False						
		(a)	Architectural cornerstones might be decided during iterative development features.	ent of			
		(b)	The total effort spent on architectural work is much higher in iterative projects compared to waterfall projects.				
☐ ☐ (c) Agile projects do not need architecture documents since the development team uses daily standup-meetings to communicate decisions.							
		(d)	If your systems consist of a set of microservices there is no need for a central architecture document since each service is free to choose its technologies.	l			
Oues	tion 1	4	K Overtions Colort "True" on "Folor" for each line				
	tion 1 20-04-1		K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points			
Discus		n of the	following statements regarding project goals and architectural goals is	true			
True	False						
		(a)	Project Goals can include functional requirements as well as quality requirements.				
		(b)	Architectural goals are a derived from the quality requirements for the or product.	system			
		(c)	Business stakeholders should concentrate on business goals and not interfere with architectural goals.				
		(d)	To avoid conflicts business goals and architectural goals should be no overlapping sets.	n-			



Que	estion	15 <i>P-Question: Choose the two best-fitting answers.</i>	1 point
ID: C)-20-04·	-11	
	t does t vers.	he rule "explicit, not implicit" mean for architecture work? Choose the TWC) best-fitting
	(a)	Architects should avoid recursive structures and replace them by explic	it loops.
	(b)	Architects should make the assumptions leading to decisions explicit.	
	(c)	Architects should explicitly insist on natural language explanations (i.e. for each building block.	comments)
	(d)	Architects should explicitly insist on written or at least oral justifications development effort estimates from their team.	s for
	(e)	Architects should make prerequisites for their decisions explicit.	
Que	estion	P-Question: Choose the three most appropriate answers.	1 point
ID: C)-20-04·	-19	
Iden	tify the ⁻	THREE most appropriate examples for typical categories of software syste	ems.
	(a)	Batch system.	
	(b)	Interactive online system.	
	(c)	Linnés system.	
	(d)	Embedded real-time system.	
	(e)	Integration test system.	
	estion	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	nt
ID: C)-20-04·	-32	
		any approaches that lead to a software architecture. Which of the followin t often found in practice?	g are the
	(a)	User-Interface Driven Design.	
	(b)	Domain Driven Design.	
	(c)	View-based Architecture Development.	
	(d)	Bottom-up Design.	
П	(e)	Maiority Voting.	



Que	stion	18 P-Quest	ion: C	hoose the three most often used views.	1 point		
ID: Q	-20-04-	38					
		ecture developme e THREE most oft		ethods suggest a view-based approach. Which of t ed?	he following		
	(a)	Physical databa	ase vi	ew.			
	(b)	Context view.					
	(c)	Building Block/	Comp	ponent view.			
	(d)	Test-driven view	٧.				
	(e)	Configuration v	iew.				
	(f)	Runtime view.					
Que	stion	19 K-Quest	ion: S	elect "Contained" or "Avoided" for each line.	1 point		
ID: Q	-20-04-	22					
		-	•	r software architecture. Which information should hich information should be avoided?	be contained		
Cont	ained	Avoided					
			(a)	Interfaces.			
			(b)	Responsibility.			
			(c)	Internal structure.			
			(d)	Hints for the implementation.			
	stion 2 -20-04-		ion: C	hoose the two most appropriate answers.	1 point		
Whic	h prerec		e fulfi	illed before developing a software architecture? Pi	ck the TWO		
	(a)	The requiremer	nts sp	ecification for the system is complete, detailed an	d consistent.		
	(b)	The most impo	rtant	qualities for the system are known.			
	(c)	Organizational	const	raints are known.			
	(d)	The programmi	ing la	nguage has been selected.			
	(e)	Hardware for th	Hardware for the development team is available.				



Que	stion 2	P-Question: Choose the three most appropriate answers.	1 point
ID: Q-	20-04-	18	
		s can influence the design of a software architecture? Pick the THREE most nswers.	
	(a)	Political.	
	(b)	Organizational.	
	(c)	Technical.	
	(d)	Virtual.	
	stion 2		1 point
ID. Q	20-04-2		
Which	of the	following qualities can most likely be improved by using a layered architecture	e?
	(a)	Runtime efficiency (performance).	
	(b)	Flexibility in modifying or changing the system.	
	(c)	Flexibility at runtime (configurability).	
	(d)	Non-repudiability.	
Que	stion 2	23 A-Question: Select one answer.	1 point
ID: Q-	20-04-3	33	
For w	hich kin	d of system can the Blackboard Architecture pattern be used?	
	(a)	Hard real-time systems.	
	(b)	Rule-based systems.	
	(c)	Linnés systems.	
	(d)	Safety critical systems.	



Que	Question 24 A-Question: Select one answer. 1 point							
ID: Q	-20-04-2	20						
Whic	h goals	are you tryir	ng to achie	eve with the dependency inversion principle?				
	(a)	Big buildir	ng blocks	shall not depend on small building blocks.				
	(b)	Compone	nts shall b	e able to create dependent components more easily.				
	(c)	Building b	locks sha	ll only depend on each other via abstractions.				
Que	stion 2	25 <i>K</i> -0	Question: S	Select "Tight coupling" or "Loose coupling" for each line.				
					1 point			
ID: Q	-20-04-	21						
What	t are cha	racteristics	of tight (h	nigh) or loose (low) coupling?				
Tight coup		Loose coupling						
			(a)	Building blocks directly call dependent building blocks i.e. without detours via interfaces or abstractions.	,			
			(b)	Building blocks use common data types.				
			(c)	Building blocks use a common database.				
			(d)	When designing building blocks, you have consistently applied the dependency inversion principle.	,			
Que	stion 2	26 <i>P-</i> 0	Question: (Choose the two best answers.	2 points			
ID: Q	-20-04-	14						
word		could happe		principle "Don't repeat yourself" (DRY) are correct? (In ot s of the source code or configuration do exist in multiple				
	(a)	DRY reduc	es securi	ty.				
	(b)	Strict adhe	erence to	DRY could lead to higher coupling.				
	(c)	The comp		the system that contain redundant code can be improve ch other.	d			
	(d)	Adherence	e to DRY le	eads to a reduction of attack vectors in IT security.				
	(e)	Applyina t	he Laver r	patterns allows a consistent application of the DRY princi	ple.			



Question 27 ID: Q-20-04-15			K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points
			ite aspects of your software architecture verbally and/or in writing. Ho ate? Decide for each of the following statements whether it is true or f	
True	False			
		(a)	Verbal communication should supplement written documentation.	
□ □ (b)			Feedback to architecture decisions should be done in writing to ensutraceability.	ire
		(c)	Written documentation should always precede oral communication.	
□ □ (d)			Architects should pick one variant (oral or written) and stick to this c during the whole development.	hoice
Ques	stion 2	28	K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points
	stion 2 20-04-3		K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	2 points
ID: Q-	20-04- 3	37	K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line. ng statements about notations for architectural views is true and which	
ID: Q-	20-04- 3	37	,	
Which false?	20-04- 3	37	,	n is
Which false?	20-04-3 of the False	37 followir	ng statements about notations for architectural views is true and which Business Process Model & Notation (BPMN) should only be used by	n is Business
ID: Q-: Which false? True	20-04-3 of the False	37 followir (a)	ng statements about notations for architectural views is true and which Business Process Model & Notation (BPMN) should only be used by Analysts and not for architecture documentation. UML deployment models are the only way to document the mapping	n is Business of



Ques	tion 2	P-Question: Choose the two best answers.	point
	20-04-1		' —
Which	archite	ctural views do have practical application for developing software architectures	?
	(a)	Pattern View.	
	(b)	Observer View.	
	(c)	Building-Block (or Component) View.	
	(d)	Deployment View.	
	stion 3 20-04-2	<u> </u>	1 point
		ontext view are a business context and a technical context. Pick the TWO most nswers that apply to the technical context.	
	(a)	The technical context contains the physical channels between your system and environment.	d its
	(b)	The technical context contains all the infrastructure on which the components your system are deployed.	of
	(c)	The technical context should include hardware pricing or pricing of cloud service used as infrastructure for your architecture.	ces
	(d)	The technical context contains information about the chosen programming lan as well as all frameworks used to implement your software architecture.	iguage
	(e)	The technical context might contain different elements than the business context	ext.



Ques	stion 3	3 1	P-Question: Choose the two best reasons.	1 point			
ID: Q-	20-04-2	24					
			re documentation could contain descriptions of cross-cutting concerns ns why documentation of cross-cutting concerns is useful.	s. Pick			
	(a)		Cross-cutting concepts should focus on the domain and be free of technical information.				
	(b)	•	Aspects or concepts that are used in multiple parts of your software architecture should be described in a non-redundant way.				
	(c)		Cross-cutting concepts can be reused in more products within the same organization.				
	(d)	Cross-cutting concepts should be implemented by specialists. Therefore, separate documentation is useful.					
Oue	stion 3	22	V. Overtions Colort "True" or "Folor" for each line	1 maint			
•	20-04-2		K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line.	1 point			
What :		delines	for good interface design? Check which of the following statements is	true and			
True	False						
		(a)	Use of interfaces should be easy to learn.				
		(b)	The client code should be easy to understand.				
		(c)	An interface should be defined by the provider of the appropriate ser	vice.			
		(d)	Interfaces specifications should contain functional and non-function aspects.	al			



Question 33		K-Question: Select "True" or "False" for each line. 1 point					
ID: Q-	20-04-2	26					
One definition says: "Software architecture is the sum of all the decisions you have taken during development. Check which of the following statements about architectural/design decision is true and which is false.							
True	False						
		(a)	Architectural decisions can implicitly be contained in the structure of the building block/component view.				
	□ (b) Software architects should justify all design decision in writing.						
		(c) Architectural decisions can have interdependencies between each other.			her.		
		(d)	Tradeoffs between conflicting quality requirements should be explicit decisions.				
Question 34 K-Question: Select "Good reason" or "No good reason" for each line.				1 point			
ID: Q-	20-04-3	31					
			ng statements which is no go	is a good reason for maintaining (adequate) architecture od reason?	9		
		No go reaso					
			(a)	To enable onboarding of new developers.			
			(b)	To conform to legal constraints.			
			(c)	To support the work of distributed teams.			
			(d)	To assist in future enhancements of the product.			
Question 35 ID: Q-20-04-30			K-Question: S	Select "Conflicting" or "Not conflicting" for each line.	1 point		
ID. Q-	20-04-3	5 U					
Which	of the	followi	ng pairs of qua	alities are usually in conflict to each other, and which are	not?		
Conflicting Not co		onflicting					
			(a)	Understandability – Readability.			
			(b)	Usability - Security.			
			(c)	Runtime configurability – Robustness.			
			(d)	Security – Legal Compliance.			



Question 36 P-Question: Choose the two best alternatives. 1			1 point
ID: Q	-20-04-	27	
requi		rovides generic quality characteristics for software systems. How can quality s concerning these characteristics be made more concrete? Pick the TWO best	t
	(a)	By developing UI prototypes.	
	(b)	By defining explicit interfaces.	
	(c)	By discussing or writing scenarios.	
	(d)	By creating automatic tests.	
	(e)	By creating a quality tree.	
	stion		1 point
ID: Q	-20-04-	28	
		following things does not help in qualitative analysis of your software architecturing answer.	ture?
	(a)	Metrics.	
	(b)	Architecture models.	
	(c)	Quality scenarios.	
	(d)	Project status reports.	
	(e)	Log files.	
	stion		2 points
ID: Q	-20-04-	29	
	•	alyze your architecture quantitatively. Which are the TWO most appropriate incural problem areas?	dicators
	(a)	High coupling of components.	
	(b)	Inappropriate names of public methods.	
	(c)	Missing comments.	
	(d)	Error clusters.	
	(e)	Number of test cases per component.	



Ques	stion 3	P-Question: Choose two answers.	1 point
ID: Q-2	20-04-3	36	
		following alternative cannot be measured in your software architecture? Pick are least likely.	the TWO
	(a)	Size of building blocks (e.g. LOC).	
	(b)	Change rate of the source code of components.	
	(c)	Cohesion of the architectural components.	
	(d)	Security level of a component.	
	(e)	Number of the developers that contributed to a specific component.	