

# BCS THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT

BCS HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS  
BCS Level 6 Professional Graduate Diploma in IT

## MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Afternoon**

Answer any THREE questions out of FIVE. All questions carry equal marks.

Time: THREE hours

**Answer any Section A questions you attempt in Answer Book A  
Answer any Section B questions you attempt in Answer Book B**

The marks given in brackets are **indicative** of the weight given to each part of the question.

Calculators are <b>NOT</b> allowed in this examination.
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### Section A

**Answer Section A questions in Answer Book A**

- A1. You hear a member of the Board of your financial organisation, while in discussion with major customers, say that *“Mobile computing renders all traditional IS/IT obsolete”*.

Discuss and justify the extent to which you agree or disagree with the above statement.  
**(25 marks)**

- A2. Cloud computing is making considerable progress into areas of MIS that are traditionally provided and managed within the physical perimeter of an organisation.

- a) Describe THREE aspects of cloud computing which may challenge conventional thinking in the provision of MIS.  
**(12 marks)**

- b) For ONE of these aspects, discuss in detail the risks AND benefits of the Cloud approach.  
**(13 marks)**

- A3. End user computing is a long established part of the culture in the company you have just joined as Head of MIS. While you knew this before taking up the post, you are surprised by the extent to which the company relies on departmental spreadsheets and databases that have been developed over many years by various teams in the organisation.

- a) Define end user computing.  
**(5 marks)**

- b) Describe FIVE success criteria for end user computing.  
**(10 marks)**

- c) Discuss how the success of end user computing could be measured.  
**(10 marks)**

**Section B**  
**Answer Section B questions in Answer Book B**

B4.

- a) State and justify **THREE** characteristics of information.  
**(9 marks)**
- b) With the aid of suitable illustrative examples, discuss the extent to which rule-based Expert Systems (ESs) can support the Human Resources (HR) function of an organisation. Include an overview of a rule-based ES within your answer.  
**(16 marks)**

B5.

- a) For EACH of the following MIS development concepts, outline its key features and discuss its applicability to Business Intelligence (BI) systems development.
  - i) Traditional development approach.  
**(7 marks)**
  - ii) CASE tools.  
**(7 marks)**
  - iii) Steering group.  
**(6 marks)**
- b) Explain why top management support is vital for MIS project proposals.  
**(5 marks)**