

# BCS THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT

## BCS HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS BCS Level 5 Diploma in IT

### PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS PRACTICE

**Thursday 23rd March 2017 - Afternoon**

Answer **any** FOUR questions out of SIX. All questions carry equal marks.

Time: TWO 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.** This question is about the **Royal Charter** and the **Code of Conduct**.

- a) The BCS Royal Charter sets out the purpose of the institution; briefly describe this purpose. **(5 marks)**
- b) The BCS's Code of Conduct is divided into FOUR sections. Name the **FOUR** sections and discuss the relevance of each section to professional practice. **(4 x 5 marks)**

**A2.** This question is about **appraisals** and **SFIPlus**.

- a) Most appraisals are carried out by the employee's immediate supervisor. The immediate supervisor may not get to see every detail of how the employee carries out his/her tasks, so other people may be asked to contribute to the employee's appraisal process. List **THREE** such potential contributors and explain the contribution each can make. **(3 x 4 marks)**
- b) Briefly discuss the SFIPlus standard. **(7 marks)**
- c) Briefly discuss **THREE** ways the SFIPlus framework can be employed to aid professional development. **(6 marks)**

**A3.** This question is about **delegation** and **management by objectives**.

- a) Describe **FIVE** reasons why a manager should delegate authority. **(10 marks)**
- b) You are the software development manager for an IT services company. Following consultation with all executive directors, the Human Resources (HR) director has been instructed to implement a system of Management By Objectives (MBO) across the whole organisation. You are concerned that MBO is not suitable for measuring the performance of your software engineers.

Write a formal email to the director of IT outlining the effects (positive and negative) that you think the introduction of MBO will have on the performance of your team. **(15 marks)**

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

**B4.** This question is about **management accounting** and **finance**.

- a) Explain what is a cash flow statement and discuss its uses and importance for a business. **(5 marks)**
- b) NetMast Solutions purchased some computer equipment for £22,000. The transportation costs were £1,200 and installation charges were £750. Some equipment was repaired during first year which cost the company £550.
- NetMast Solutions depreciated the equipment at 10% each year.
- What is the net book value of this equipment after one year? **(5 marks)**
- c) Discuss each of the following pairs of terms. Give at least ONE example for each term.
- Income and Profit. **(3 marks)**
  - Fixed Assets and Current Assets. **(6 marks)**
  - Tangible Assets and Intangible Assets. **(6 marks)**

**B5.** This question is about the **UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1998** and the **UK Computer Misuse Act 1990**.

- a) You are a computer forensic analyst investigating the distribution of illegal pirate films via a network. You have identified a person who has downloaded numerous illegal pirate copies of films, and has also made these available to others via the network.
- Explain how the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1998 would apply to this situation. **(12 marks)**
- b) You work for a social media company and have identified an individual who has been spreading a computer virus via a social media account. The individual has attempted to gain access to other social media users' computers in an attempt to obtain credit card data.
- Explain how the UK Computer Misuse Act 1990 would apply to this scenario. **(13 marks)**

**B6.** This question is about the **UK Data Protection Act 1998** and **UK Consumer Legislation**.

- a) You are an IT contractor who has been hired by a small company to develop an e-commerce system to handle selling goods to consumers. The company is based in the UK and selling to consumers in the UK. Explain to the manager of the company what will need to be done to ensure that the company complies with the UK Data Protection Act 1998. **(15 marks)**
- b) For the company in part (a) explain to the manager of the company what would need to be done to ensure that the company complied with UK Consumer legislation, e.g. the UK Consumer Protection (Distance Selling) Regulations 2000. **(10 marks)**