BCS THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT

BCS HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS BCS Level 5 Diploma in IT

Professional Issues in Information Systems Practice

Wednesday 26th September 2018 - Afternoon
Answer <u>any</u> FOUR questions out of SIX. All questions carry equal marks.
Time: TWO hours

Answer any <u>Section A</u> questions you attempt in <u>Answer Book A</u>
Answer any <u>Section B</u> questions you attempt in <u>Answer Book B</u>

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

Calculators are **NOT** allowed in this examination.

Section A

Answer Section A questions in Answer Book A

- A1. This question is about **BCS** and **Professional Bodies**.
 - a) Describe TWO main ways in which BCS promotes education; include relevant examples for each one. (10 marks)
 - b) Discuss THREE key responsibilities of BCS. Using relevant examples, explain how these responsibilities are carried out. (15 marks)

A2. This question is about **Organisations and their Structures** and **Finance for organisations**.

a) Consider the following statement:

It is an essential feature of the bureaucratic organisational model that every individual and every unit in the organisation is responsible to only one manager. This is not realistic in the context of project based, high technology companies.

With reference to a high technology company with team members working on many different projects, why is this essential feature not realistic? (10 marks)

b) Ardree Software Ltd is a small, successful software development company. It now wishes to set up a subsidiary in the UK, to develop a human resource administration package. The UK government provides grants to encourage the growth of such companies in areas of high unemployment.

As managing director, you are responsible for raising the capital required to get the new subsidiary up and running. The following sources of finance are available:

- UK government grant.
- Loan.
- Sale of equity in Ardree Software Ltd.

Discuss each of these possible sources of finance and outline the issues to be considered for each one. (15 marks)

- A3. This question is about **Human Resources Management**.
 - a) The project team structure lends itself to job rotation, as project team members move between different projects and different tasks. What are the advantages of such a structure to project team members and to management?

(10 marks)

b) Discuss THREE possible advantages of job specialisation and TWO possible disadvantages. (15 marks)

Section B

Answer Section B questions in Answer Book B

- B4. This question is about **Finance**.
 - a) Cowley Industries purchased a file server in March 2010. Information available regarding this purchase is as follows:

List Price of the Server	£45,000
Delivery Charges	£1,500
Installation Cost	£5,000
Testing	£3,000

Cowley Industries received 10% discount on the list price and 5% discount for making a one-off lump sum payment. The company paid 20% sales tax on the purchase price of the server. The company also signed a 5-year maintenance contract at a total cost of £7,000.

Calculate the total cost for the server. How will this transaction be accounted for in the financial statements? (15 marks)

b) The server described in part a) had a useful life of 5 years. The company considered that the salvage value of the server will be £10,000. The server was sold for £12,000 at the end of 5th year. Calculate the depreciation using the straight-line method and the declining balance method at 20% per year. Also describe how the transaction will differ using both methods and how it will be recorded in the accounts.

(10 marks)

Turn over

B5. This question is about the **UK Data Protection** law.

a) You are a web developer for a UK loans company. You have developed a website for the company that allows customers to apply for loans on-line. However, the website has been poorly developed.

When a customer has completed the on-line loan application, the details of the loan including the customer's name and address remain on the screen so that the next potential customer can view the personal data entered by the previous user. In addition, the user-entered data is stored on a back-end database. However, due to the poor design and coding, some of the personal data is missing from the database.

The personal data required for a loan is more than is necessary for the purpose of applying for a loan.

Explain how UK Data Protection law applies to this scenario. (15 marks)

b) Outline how an organisation can register as a data user under the UK Data Protection law. (10 marks)

B6. This question is about **Legal Obligations** and **the Internet**.

- a) You are a resident in the local authority of Downshire. You are concerned about a new shopping centre that is to be built on the edge of the town where you live. In particular, you wish to know how this will affect the levels of road traffic in the area. You apply to the Downshire local authority to request this information.
 - Outline what the local authority would need to do to process your request for information. (15 marks)
- b) Outline the different responsibilities of a UK based Internet Service Provider that provides transmission only, caching and hosting services for clients. (10 marks)