Name: ____

IAL IT Topic 6 Examiner's Report

Date:

Time:

Total marks available:

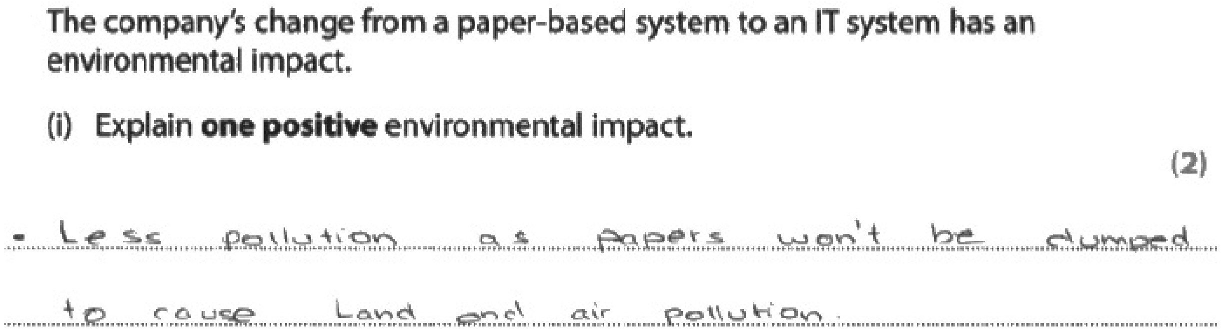
Total marks achieved: ______

Examiner's Report

Q1.

(i) This question and the following, (ii), concerned the environmental impact of changing from a paper-based system to an IT system.

This questions asked for a positive impact. Most candidates made the point that using less paper meant cutting down fewer trees. This was an acceptable answer because although most trees used for paper are a sustainable crop, there is still a significant amount of forest destruction.



The company's change from a paper-based system to an IT system has an environmental impact.

(i) Explain **one positive** environmental impact.

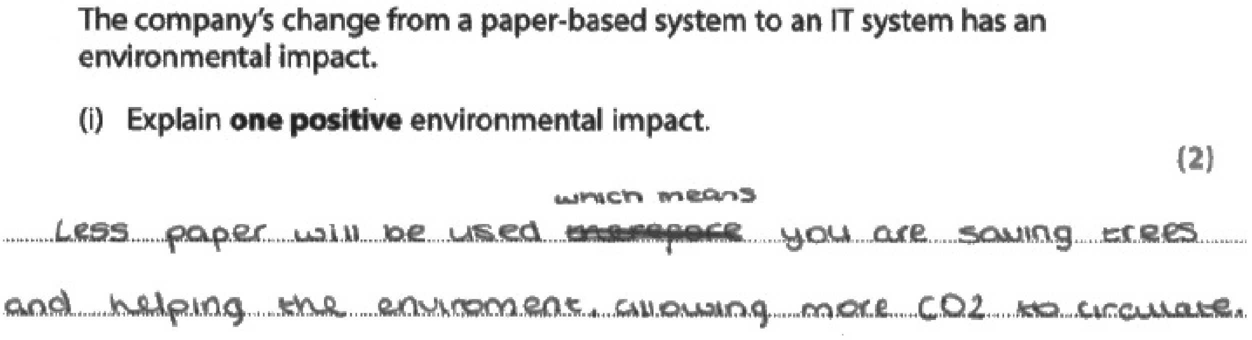
(2)

- Less pollution as papers won't be dumped to cause Land and air pollution.

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

This candidate understands about landfill and pollution, but does not state that there will be less paper, for the second mark.

Total:1 Mark



The company's change from a paper-based system to an IT system has an environmental impact.

(i) Explain **one positive** environmental impact.

(2)

Less paper will be used ~~[illegible]~~ which means you are saving trees and helping the enviroment, allowing more CO2 to circulate.

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

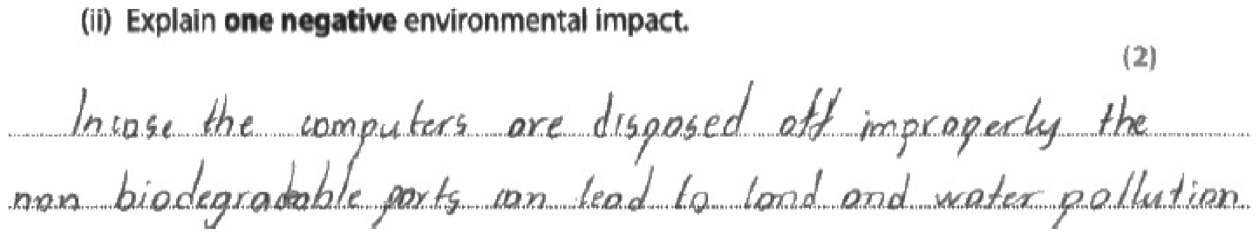
This is a typical answer noting using less paper and saving trees.

Total: 2 Marks

(ii) This question, and the preceding (i), concerned the environmental impact of changing from a paper-based system to an IT system.

This questions required a negative impact.

This was answered less well than (i), the positive impact. Candidates often stated that there would be pollution but did not always explain that adequately.



(ii) Explain **one negative** environmental impact.

(2)

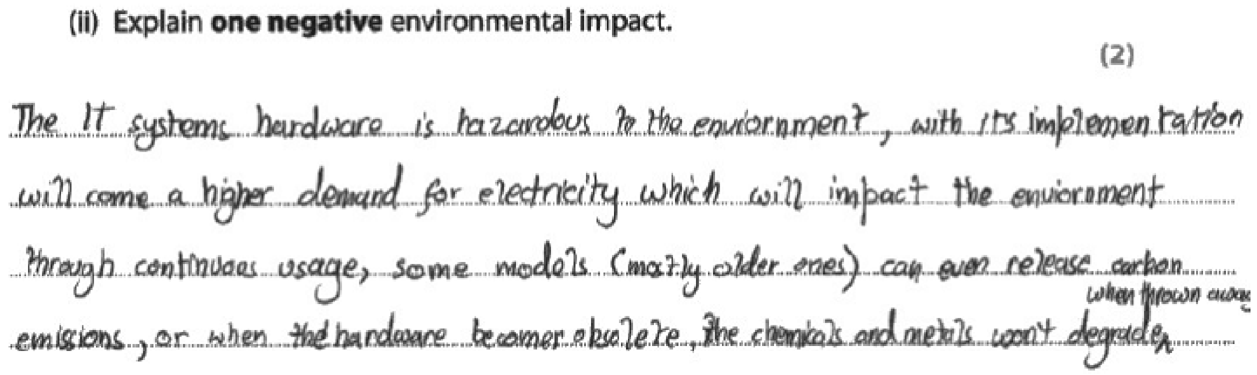
Incase the computers are disposed off improperly the non biodegradable parts can lead to land and water pollution

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

This answer receives marks from the second example, improper disposal, causing pollution, which in this case is specified as non-biodegradable parts.

"Pollution" with no further detail would not have been enough for the second mark.

Total: 2 Marks



(ii) Explain **one negative** environmental impact.

(2)

The IT systems hardware is hazardous to the enviornment, with its implementation will come a higher demand for electricity which will impact the enviorment through continuous usage, some models (mostly older ones) can even release carbon emissions, or when the hardware becomes obsolete, the chemicals and metals won't degrade when thrown away

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

This answer would receive one mark for a part answer about energy use, but receives both marks for "chemicals and metals won't degrade when thrown away".

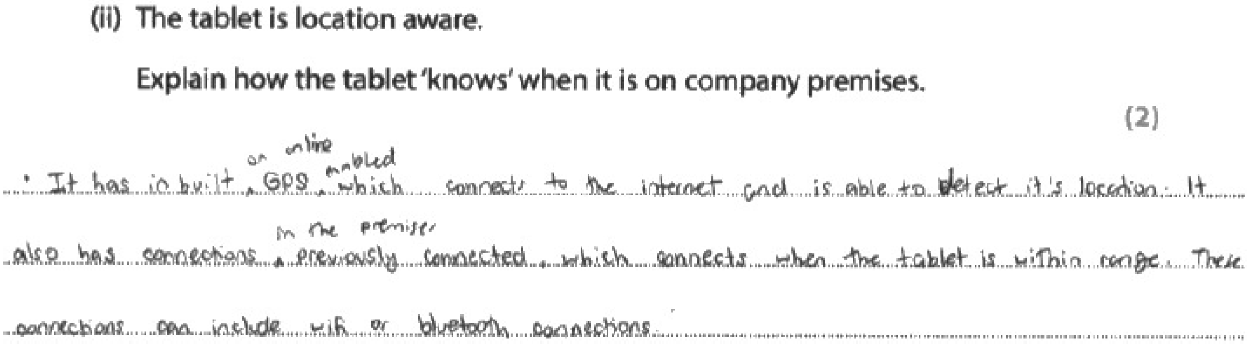
Total: 2 Marks

Q2.

(ii) This question was about how location awareness works, in the context of a delivery driver's tablet computer knowing when it has reached company premises.

Frequently, candidates who wrote about GPS were confused as to how it works, with many saying that the satellites are somehow doing the calculations and telling the tablet where it is.

Those writing about using Wi-Fi often did not say that the tablet had to have Wi-Fi enabled for it to detect the company's signal.



(ii) The tablet is location aware.

Explain how the tablet 'knows' when it is on company premises.

(2)

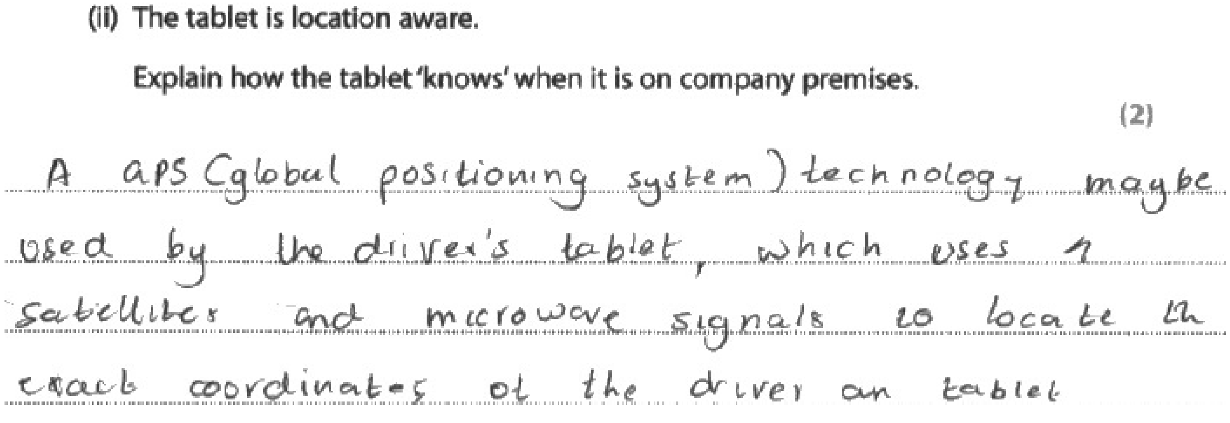
• It has in built, or online GPS, enabled which connects to the internet and is able to detect it's location. It also has connections, in the premises previously connected, which connects when the tablet is within range. These connections can include wifi or bluetooth connections.

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

This answer receives one mark for the part about GPS.

It receives two marks, just enough, for the Wi-Fi explanation.

Total: 2 Marks



(ii) The tablet is location aware.

Explain how the tablet 'knows' when it is on company premises.

(2)

A GPS (global positioning system) technology maybe used by the driver's tablet, which uses 4 satellites and microwave signals to locate th exact coordinates of the driver an tablet

Results Plus: Examiner Comments

This is a typical one-mark GPS answer.

The candidate knows something about GPS, but does not say anything about a stored/home location being needed.

Total: 1 Mark

Q3.

This is a levels based question and showed a good spread of marks in levels one and two. Most candidates seemed not to understand the difference between active and passive footprints and therefore found it hard to reach level three.

Q4.

This is a long essay question about a smartphone app that uses location awareness. Candidates are asked to evaluate the technologies that might be used, the sort of information that the app might give to a user, and any moral/ethical issues with the app.

This is worth twelve marks.

The indicative content in the mark scheme includes a range of possible approaches. Good answers do not need to include all of them but must include something about the areas specified in the question A conclusion is also required.

The level three descriptor requires 'accurate and relevant knowledge, a coherent and fully developed response, an awareness of competing arguments, and a conclusion supported by evidence'.

A good answer would probably include something about an appropriate technology such as GPS, plus advantages and disadvantages of having the app, mainly for the user, although the position of the app company/writer could also be considered.

There is no 'correct' conclusion. Similar apps are used in the real world, some are acceptable to their users, while others get poor reviews and may even be removed from app stores due to security/privacy concerns. The conclusion should however agree with the arguments made by the candidate.

Q5.

(i) and (ii) were about civil liberties and government powers and were expected to be quite difficult for candidates to answer. Nevertheless, there were a significant number of full mark answers.

Q6.

(i) asks what is meant by personal data. The mark scheme lists three marking points. Any combination could be used for a two mark answer. Examples of personal data such as 'name' should be accepted for the first marking point.

(ii) is about ways for a community member to to protect their account. The mark scheme lists acceptable answers.

Other methods may be possible, but they must be ones that an individual could use.

(iii) is about ways for a community administrator to protect members' data. The mark scheme lists acceptable answers.

Other methods may be possible, but they must be ones that an administrator could apply to all accounts/members' stored data.

Q7. No Examiner's Report available for this question

Q8.

This is a long essay question about the disposal of used IT equipment.

This is worth twelve marks.

The indicative content in the mark scheme includes a range of possible approaches. Good answers do not need to include all of them but must include something about environmental and data security considerations as these are specified in the question. A conclusion is also required.

The level three descriptor requires 'accurate and relevant knowledge, a coherent and fully developed response, an awareness of competing arguments, and a conclusion supported by evidence'.

A good answer would probably include advantages and disadvantages of the two approaches given in the question, both for environmental and security matters. It is also likely to consider the costs involved as the scenario involves making a profit from a business.

There is no 'correct' conclusion. Both methods of dealing with IT equipment are used in the real world and presumably make a profit for the companies involved. The conclusion should however agree with the arguments made by the candidate.

Q9. No Examiner's Report available for this question

Q10.

(i) was about features of a smart TV to assist people with visual impairment. Although there were a lot of good answers, too many candidates responded with statements that would apply to a computer monitor, rather than a TV set.

(ii) was rather poorly answered, with the majority of candidates giving generic information about accessibility, rather than explaining why a manufacturer would include accessibility features.