

AS

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Paper 1
June 2022

Preliminary Material

To be opened and issued to candidates on or after **1 March 2022** subject to the instructions given in the **Teachers' Notes** (7516/1/TN).

Note

• The **Preliminary Material**, **Skeleton Program** and **Data Files** are to be seen by candidates and their teachers **only**, for use during preparation for the Summer 2022 examination. They **cannot** be used by anyone else for any other purpose, other than that stated in the instructions issued, until after the examination date has passed. They must **not** be provided to third parties.

Information

- A Skeleton Program is provided separately by your teacher and must be read in conjunction with this Preliminary Material.
- You are advised to familiarise yourself with the Preliminary Material and Skeleton Program before the examination.
- A copy of this Preliminary Material and the Skeleton Program will be made available to you in hard copy and electronically at the start of the examination.
- You must **not** take any copy of the Preliminary Material, Skeleton Program and Data Files or any other material into the examination room.

Candidates will need access to a text file editor, such as Notepad or TextEdit.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

The question paper is divided into **three** sections.

Section A

You will be asked to create a new program and answer questions **not** related to the **Preliminary Material** or **Skeleton Program**.

Section B

Questions will refer to the **Preliminary Material** and the **Skeleton Program**, but will not require programming.

Section C

Questions will use the **Preliminary Material** and the **Skeleton Program** and may require the puzzle1.txt, puzzle1P.txt and puzzle1S.txt **Data Files**.

Electronic Answer Document

Answers for **all** questions, for **all** sections, must be entered into the word-processed document made available to you at the start of the examination and referred to in the question paper rubrics as the **Electronic Answer Document**.

Preparation for the Examination

You should ensure that you are familiar with this **Preliminary Material** and the **Skeleton Program** for your programming language.

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Number Puzzle

The **Skeleton Program** accompanying this **Preliminary Material** is a number puzzle program for a single user.

A puzzle consists of a 9 x 9 grid with nine 3 x 3 sub-grids. The grid contains some given digits between 1 and 9.

To solve the puzzle, the user fills in the grid with single digits so that each row, each column and each of the nine sub-grids contain all of the digits from 1 to 9.

Figure 1 shows the main menu that is displayed when the program is started.

Figure 1

Main Menu

L - Load new puzzle

P - Load partially solved puzzle

S - Solve puzzle

C - Check solution

K - Keep partially solved puzzle

X - Exit

There are six options on the menu:

Option L

The program loads a new puzzle. When loading a new puzzle, the program starts with a partially complete grid of digits (referred to as given digits).

Option P

The program loads a partially solved puzzle that has previously been saved (see Option K below).

Option S

The program enters solve mode, allowing the user to attempt to solve the loaded puzzle.

In solve mode the user enters the co-ordinates and the digit as a single string. For example, entering 257 means place the digit 7 in row 2, column 5

To exit solve mode, the user presses the Enter key.

Option C

The program checks the digits the user has placed and calculates a score.

Option K

The program saves a partially solved puzzle. This can be reloaded by the user (see Option P).

Option X

The program ends.

Turn over ▶

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Data File Naming Convention

The **Skeleton Program** stores puzzle data in data files. The naming convention for these files is as follows, where N represents a positive integer:

- puzzleN.txt contains the data for an unsolved puzzle (a partially complete grid) puzzleNS.txt contains the solution to puzzleN
- puzzleNP.txt contains the data for a partial solution of puzzleN

The puzzle1.txt file contains data for the puzzle shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2

5 1		.	4.		6				3						
									.						
6 .	5.	. 8	.		1										
===	= . ==	== . =	===	===	= . =	===	= . =	===	=	==:	= .	===	= . =	==	:
7 .	.		1 .			4		9							
									.						
8 .	.	2		7				1							
١									.						
9 2		.			5			6	1						
===	= . ==	== . =	===	==:	= . =		= _ =	_==	= 1	==:	= .	_==	= . =		:

The contents of file puzzle1S.txt, shown in Figure 3, contains data for the solution of puzzle1.

Figure 3

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The file puzzle1P.txt contains the data shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4

Figure 5 shows the partially solved puzzle1.

Figure 5

2	9	•	•		5		7		4		•	•							
	4															•		•	
٠.	==					· .				-				=.	==	== ,	.==	==	
	•																		
	1														• •	•	• • •	•	
	6		_		_				_					• •		•		•	
	==												==	=.	==	== .	. ==	==	
· .	•		-				•					٠.							
· .	•		-									٠.							
	2												• •	• •	• •	• •		•	I
- 1	==	= .	==	= .	==	=	==	= .	==	= .	==	=	==	=.	==	== ,	. ==	==	

END OF PRELIMINARY MATERIAL

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