

Name:

Student Number:

University of Cape Town ~ Department of Computer Science

Computer Science 1015F ~ 2013

Class Test 3

**** SOLUTIONS ****

Question	Max	Internal	External
1	12		
2	9		
3	9		
TOTAL	30		

Marks : 30

Time : 45 minutes

Instructions:

- a) Answer all questions.
- b) Write your answers in **PEN** in the spaces provided.
- c) Show all calculations where applicable.

Question 1 [12]

Examine the following function:

```
def puzzle(firstList, secondList, value):  
    dict = {}  
    for i in range(len(firstList)):  
        dict[firstList[i]] = secondList[i]  
    for key in dict:  
        if dict[key] == value:  
            return key
```

(a) Explain in simple English what this function does. [2]

Returns the element in the first list at the position that corresponds to where value is found in the second list. [2]

(b) What is the value returned by:

`puzzle(['a', 'b', 'c'], [100, 200, 300], 200) ?` [1]

'b' [1]

(c) What is the value returned by:

`puzzle(['a', 'b', 'c'], [100, 200, 300], 400) ?` [1]

None [1]

(a) What kinds of parameters as input would cause this function to fail, with a Python error message. Explain why the function will fail and provide example parameters. [3]

If firstList is longer than secondList [1] then this will cause an out of range error in the first loop as the index will exceed the length of the second list. [1] Example parameters: firstList = ['a', 'b', 'c'], secondList = [100,200], value = 200 [1].

- (b) Rewrite the code for the function `puzzle` so that it doesn't need to search through the entire dictionary. [5]

```
def puzzle(firstList, secondList, value):  
    dict = {} [1]  
    for i in range(len(firstList)): [1]  
        dict[secondList[i]] = firstList[i] [1]  
    if value in dict: [1]  
        return dict[value] [1]
```

Question 2 [9]

Examine the following function:

```
def rec(n):  
    if n==0:  
        return 0  
    else:  
        return rec(n-1) - n
```

- (a) Identify the base case and recursive step in this function. [2]

base case – $n = 0$ [1]

recursive step ($n > 0$) call to $rec(n-1)$ [1]

- (b) What is the value returned by `rec (3)` ? [2]

-6 [2]

- (c) What would happen if the line “`return rec(n-1) - n`” was replaced by “`return rec(n) – n`” ? [1]

Python would recurse until the recursion depth was exceeded [1] (Also accept that this represents infinite recursion [1])

- (d) Rewrite this function to use iteration rather than recursion [4]

```
def rec(n):  
    negsum = 0 [1]  
    for i in range(n): [1]  
        negsum -= n [1]  
    return negsum [1]
```

Question 3 [9]

Examine the following function:

```
def doSomething(lst,value):  
    p = 0  
    while p < len(lst) and lst[p] != value:  
        p += 1  
    if p == len(lst):  
        return -1  
    else:  
        return p
```

(a) What is this function more commonly called [1]

Linear Search [1]

(b) What is the time complexity of this function in the worst case? [1]

Linear – $O(n)$ [1]

(d) What is the value returned by:

doSomething([7, 14, 21, 14, 35], 9) ? [1]

-1 [1]

(c) Modify the function doSomething so that it finds the position of the last occurrence of value in the list. [6]

```
def doSomething(lst, value):  
    p = len(lst)-1    [1]  
    while p >= 0 and lst[p] != value: [2]  
        p -= 1        [1]  
    return p          [2]
```

(or instead of last line

```
if p == -1:  
    return -1  
else  
    return p)
```