



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14/16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
JUNE/JULY EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: CIT309

COURSE TITLE: COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE (3 UNITS)

TIME ALLOWED: 2½ HOURS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS IN ALL

- 1a. Illustrate with simple diagram the basic Instruction fetch and execution cycle.
[10.5 marks]
- 1b. Write short note on the three components of the C. P. U.
[7 marks]
- 2a. When does the Overflow rule occur?
[7.5 marks]
- 2b. Explain the (4) elements of a machine instruction.
[10 marks]
- 3a. Give (4) examples of shorter sub cycles/operation that made up of an instruction cycle.
[7.5 marks]
- 3b. Write short note on the following: [10 marks]
 - i. Multithreading
 - ii. Process switch
 - iii. Thread
 - iv. Thread switch
- 4a. List and briefly explain the four (4) characteristics of Reduced Instruction Set architecture. [10 marks]
- 4b. Differentiate between the Structure and Function of a Computer system.
[7.5 marks]
- 5a. Discuss why (PC - MAR) must precede (Memory - MBR) operation in fetch cycle.
[5.5 marks]
- 5b. State the (4) characteristics of reduced instruction set architectures.
[12 marks]

- 6a. List and describe the two (2) basic tasks of control unit.
[7 marks]
- 6b. Copy and complete the table below.
[10.5 marks]

A	B	\bar{A}	\bar{B}	A.B	A+B	$(\bar{A}.B)$	$\bar{A}\bar{B}$	(A XOR B)
0	0							
0	1							
1	0							
1	1							