



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATSEC
Examinations Board



Examiners' Report
IM Information Technology
Main Session 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. Statistical Information1

B. Remarks on the Written Examination1

Section A1

Section B2

A. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The total number of candidates who registered to sit for Intermediate Information Technology was 60. Table 1 shows the distribution of grades for the Information Technology Intermediate Matriculation 2024 first session of the examination.

GRADE	A	B	C	D	E	F	ABS	TOTAL
NUMBER	4	11	16	10	6	8	5	60
% OF TOTAL	6.7	18.3	26.7	16.7	10.0	13.3	8.3	100

Table 1: Distribution of grades for IM Information Technology, Main Session 2024

B. REMARKS ON THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION

SECTION A

Question 1

This question was a compulsory question, covering ERD in the first part and quality assurance and other project aspects in the second. While most identified entities and attributes, many struggled with relationships between tables. Other candidates struggled to draw an appropriate ERD, with some even connecting attributes instead of entities, while others omitted relationships altogether. In the second part, most candidates faced difficulties with parts (d) to (f), although the majority answered part (g) correctly.

Question 2

The performance of a number of candidates who opted to answer this question indicated difficulties with the part (a). Many of them did not outline processes associated with each stage mentioned in (a); instead, they explained the definitions. The majority answered part (b) correctly and most of the candidates described the two types of documentation in part (c) correctly.

Question 3

Most of the candidates who selected this question, effectively answered part (a) by stating the three distinct levels of organisational information systems. Moreover, several candidates showed an understanding of LAN risks and showed a good grasp of the concept of a client-server network, as evidenced by their correct responses to part (b). In part b(i), many candidates stated valid security risks when using a LAN. In part b(ii), most candidates described the client-server network correctly. Only few candidates got this incorrect. In part b(iii), the majority provided an appropriate method of back-up storage.

Question 4

The candidates who chose this question performed well, demonstrating their awareness of various types of information, including direct and indirect sources, and understanding the advantages associated with each technique. Although many candidates did provide valid answers, however some responses given for part (b) indicated lack of understanding of what indirect and direct data sources are.

Question 5

Those who opted to answer this question demonstrated awareness of various data capturing techniques and understanding of validation. The responses provided by the candidates for all parts of the question were mostly valid. Responses given indicated that some candidates confused data validation with data integrity in part (b) and part (c).

Question 6

In part (a), the candidates demonstrated their awareness of the distinction between application and system software. Many candidates gave similar responses for parts (b) and (c).

Question 7

This question primarily centred around computer memory and CPU. Parts (a) and (b) were generally answered correctly, although some omitted the mentioning of two registers in part (a) and listed RAM and ROM instead. Performance in part (c) was poor indicating lack of ability to distinguish between SRAM and DRAM.

SECTION B

Question 1

This question was compulsory and focused on communication mechanisms. The majority of candidates answered it correctly. Answers given showed difficulty in describing the two components of any communication model in part (b), but overall, performance was satisfactory.

Question 2

Candidates who opted for Question B2 demonstrated understanding in answering questions related to upward, downward, and lateral communication in parts (b) to (f). Difficulties were noted in answering part (a), particularly when defining the term 'knowledge base'.

Question 3

Those who opted for this question generally performed very well, with some even obtaining full marks. Their success indicates that candidates were comfortable answering questions related to departments and functional areas within a company.

Chairperson
Examination Panel 2024