

SECTION A MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

In general, this section was well handled. There were candidates who scored full marks, and there were no faulty questions which gave rise to anomalies.

SECTION B HARDWARE AND SYSTEM SOFTWARE

Question 2 COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE.

This question was well handled. Teachers have perhaps not spoken much about SCSI controllers as the candidates did not answer this question well.

Question 3 OPERATING SYSTEMS AND SYSTEM SOFTWARE.

There was a problem with Question 3.2.1. and 3.2.2. Many of the candidates had obviously not heard of the registry, and simply guessed their answers. Candidates did not fare well in the question on virtual memory (Question 3.3.1) -much like last year.

Question 3.4.5 (dealing with compilation) was also badly handled.

Question 4 DATA COMMUNICATIONS AND NETWORKS.

This question was, generally speaking, well handled, but many candidates had not heard of "parity testing". The few who knew what it was could not explain it properly.

SECTION C IMPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Question 5 e-COMMUNICATIONS.

The question was well handled, but it appears that while teachers have covered website development, they have neglected the process of uploading to servers (ISP).

Question 6 SOCIAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Teachers have not covered Sun Microsystem's Open Office or StarOffice in their discussions on open source software, and have also not focussed on licensing. . Many candidates guessed their answers.

SECTION D PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Question 7 DATA STRUCTURES.

This was better handled than last year. Many candidates understood the concept of a queue, but could not apply it. Question 7.3.2 was very badly handled. Candidates could also not properly describe how queues are implemented in computer environments.

Question 8 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING

Many of the candidates did not understand the difference between syntax, run-time and logical errors, and illustrated their answers with incorrect examples.