



THE MOMBASA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of JKUAT)

Faculty of Engineering & Technology

DEPARTMENT COMPUTER SCIENCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

DIPLOMA IN INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGY & BIOTECHNOLOGY

(DIMBT 11M)

EIT 2230: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

SERIES: FEBRUARY/MARCH 2012

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions to Candidates:

You should have the following for this examination

- *Answer Booklet*

This paper consist of **FIVE** questions in **TWO** sections **A & B**

Answer question **ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions

Maximum marks for each part of a question are as shown

This paper consists of **THREE** printed pages

SECTION A (COMPULSORY)

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Define the term computer (2 marks)
- b) State the difference between the following
(i) Data and Information
(ii) RAM and ROM
(iii) Soft Copy and Hard Copy
- c) Explain FOUR advantages of using computers for processing data (12 marks)
- d) Most operating systems (OS) include several pre-installed programs that can be used to manage, protect data and improve the performance of the computer. Briefly discuss any four such programs that windows (OS) provide to keep the computer in top working condition (8 marks)

SECTION B (Answer any two questions)

QUESTION TWO

- a) ICT has increased the choice of career opportunities globally, Identify and briefly explain FOUR ICT career opportunities in your country. (8 marks)
- b) Define the term information technology (2 marks)
- c) Identify FOUR advantages of liquid crystal display (LCD) and plasma screen technology over cathode ray tube technology (4 marks)
- d) List the major classifications of computer systems (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain the meaning of the following terms:
(i) Form factor
(ii) Virtual memory
(iii) Firm ware (6 marks)
- b) Flash disks have become the storage media of choice today as opposed to floppy diskettes. Describe FOUR characteristics of the flash disk that make it to be preferred to the floppy diskette. (4 marks)
- c) Operating systems can be classified to the basis of user interface. Describe any TWO types (6 marks)
- d) Explain the classification of computer software giving examples for each (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) As a student was working on her computer, the mouse failed before she could complete her assignment. State the keyboard keys she would use to perform the following tasks:
- (i) Place data from a clipboard to a document
(ii) Save the current document
(iii) Terminate an application that is not responding

(iv) Switch between running programs (4 marks)

b) State the precautionary measures one should take before:

- Connecting to the internet;
- Allowing other people to use your computer, or;
- Share files with others

(4 marks)

c) Microsoft Office is commercial office suite of inter-related desktop applications. Briefly explain the **THREE** main applications in this suite (6 marks)

d) Distinguish between a file, a folder, and the root directory (6 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

a) Outline the history of computers, stating the timeline and the major technological inventions of each generation (10 marks)

b) Explain the steps in setting up a new user account in Windows XP (6 marks)

c) List FOUR basic operations performed by a computer (4 marks)