

MOMBASA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Bachelor of Science in I.T- BSC I.T 11M

BIT 2108- COMPUTER NETWORKS

INSTRUCTIONS

THERE ARE **FIVE** QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER
SECTION A IS COMPULSORY
ANSWER ANY **TWO** QUESTIONS IN SECTION B

SECTION A

QUESTION 1

- (a) Outline any **FOUR** factors that distinguish packet switching from circuit switching. 4 marks
- (b) (i) Find the classes and the subnet mask of the following IP addresses
- i. 213.14.2.1
 - ii. 129.14.6.8
 - iii. 114.34.2.8
- 3 Marks**
- (c) Outline any **EIGHT** reasons for using different network topologies 4Marks
- (d) Outline any **FOUR** properties of network protocols 4 marks
- (e) Describe any **FOUR** key factors that are considered in selecting a transmission media 4 Marks
- (f) Describe any **TWO** factors that will limit the number of repeaters in a computer network 4 Marks
- (g) Outline any **FOUR** function of a hub in a computer network 4 Marks
- (h) Outline **FOUR** key components of an optical fibre communication link. 4Marks
- (i) Outline any **SIX** transmission line impairments. 3 marks
- (j) Outline any **FOUR** reasons for using different network topologies -2 Marks

QUESTION 2

- (a) Describe a multilayered switch in computer networks 2 Marks
- (b) Explain any **FOUR** ways of classifying computer networks 8 marks
- (c)(i) Define medium access method
- (ii) Outline the purpose of medium access methods

(ii) Describe in detail any THREE popular medium access methods

10 marks

QUESTION 3

(a) Explain any FOUR non-connector based power losses in optical fibre 4 marks

(b) i) Define multiplexing as applied in computer networks

(ii) Outline any FOUR forms of multiplexing commonly employed in computer networks 3 marks

(c) Describe the function of the following OSI layer 4 marks

i. Transport -.

ii. data link

(d) Compare and contrast any THREE network topologies in terms of their strengths and weakness 6 Marks

(e) Outline any THREE advantages of installing network bridges 3 Marks

QUESTION 4

(a) (i) Define Asynchronous Transfer Mode ATM

(i) Outline any SIX characteristics of ATM 7 Marks

(b) Outline any SIX characteristics of Frame relay 6 Marks

(c) (i) explain any TWO routing requirement in packet switched networks

(ii) Describe Adaptive routing

(ii) State any THREE advantages of adaptive routing

7 marks

QUESTION 5

(a) State any FOUR reasons for errors in data communication 4 Marks

(b) Outline any FOUR requirement for an encoding technique 4 Marks

(c) (i) Describe Delta Modulation

(i) Outline THREE main features of Delta Modulation 7 marks

(d) Prove that the receiver will not detect an error if no bit error occurs during transmission given that a polynomial 11001 is used to code a message 111001 5 marks