



THE MOMBASA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Jkuat)

Faculty of Engineering and Technology

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY YR 1 SEM 1

CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER MAINTENANCE AND NETWORK TECHNOLOGY (CMNT
2K 11M)

ECT 1103: INTRODUCTION TO IT

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

SERIES: AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2011

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions to Candidates:

You should have the following for this examination

- *Answer booklet*

Answer question **ONE (COMPULSORY)** in section **A** and any other **TWO** questions from section **B**

This paper consists of **THREE** printed pages

SECTION A

Question 1 (Compulsory)

- a) Define the term computer (2 marks)
- b) List four basic operations performed by a computer (4 marks)
- c) Explain any **FOUR** advantages of using computers for processing data (8 marks)
- d) State the difference between the following (6 marks)
 - (i) Data and Information
 - (ii) RAM and ROM
 - (iii) Softcopy and Hardcopy
- e) Explain the classification of computer software giving examples for each (10 marks)

SECTION B

Question 2

- 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 the advantages of liquid crystal display (LCD) and plasma screen technology over cathode ray tube technology (6 marks)
- d) Define the following terms. (4 marks)
 - (i) Computer ergonomics
 - (ii) Form factor

Question 3

In reference to the phrase “computer system”, explain:

- a) Why a computer is referred to as a system (2 marks)
- b) The main components of a computer system (give examples) (6 marks)
- c) List the major classifications of computer systems (6 marks)
- d) Operating Systems can be classified on the basis of user interface. Describe any **TWO** types of user interfaces (6 marks)

Question 4

- a) State any **FOUR** health issues associated with the use of computers and suggest the solution for each (8 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) Differentiate between warm booting and cold booting (4 marks)
- d) State the major stages in the boot process (4 marks)

Question 5

- a) Briefly outline the history of computers, stating the timeline and the major technological inventions of each generation (10 marks)
- b) State the advantages and disadvantages of using computers (10 marks)