GCE ICT

2004 - 5

AS Agreement Trial Material

AS Project Title: Database (Print Business Supplies)

Assessment Criteria	Maximum Marks Available	Mark Range Awarded	Comments
Analysis	15	6-8	Clear evidence of reason why topic was chosen. The problem specification lacks clarity. This is an appropriate problem and the basic approach to analysis is sound. The candidate makes use of some appropriate techniques for investigation and recording (interview, entity relationship model) but does not capitalise on them. The user requirements are expressed vaguely and their translation into information requirements follow with the same lack of detail. Is the system going to deal with employee pay? (see page 7). Objectives stated are too general to form the basis for a realistic design.
Design	20	10-12	The design section documentation is more appropriate for the Software Development and Technical Documentation section. Design should be independent of the software platform. Screen dumps of implementation are not appropriate in this section. However a design is implied and marks can be awarded accordingly. The tables specified, only include a small number of attributes with consideration given to validation by using masks. The procedures associated with important functions such as sales, receipts, reorders, deliveries and stock update are described in an incomplete fashion throughout the documentation.
SW Dev. & Tec Doc	25	13 - 14	A restricted system has been developed with reference to the original analysis. A number of relevant features of a package have been used e.g. Switchboard, queries, macros, forms, sub-forms etc. Inadequate technical details have been given to describe the implementation of complex structures such as the sales and receipt forms. Some evidence of data control.
Testing	20	10 - 12	There is a reasonable testing strategy but it is not followed through in the actual testing plan. Tests were mainly planned to see "if it works" as opposed to meeting user requirements/objectives. While no real system or user acceptance testing is apparent, there is a reasonable range of unit and integration testing complete with evidence.
User Guide	10	4 - 6	A user guide, well presented but with some components not present (e.g. contents listing, troubleshooting etc.) or poorly described (e.g. main switchboard, sales, deliveries etc.). It does not focus on the day to day user activities.
Evaluation	10	2-4	The effectiveness of the new system is given limited treatment but some awareness is shown of its limitations. End user review is not realistic e.g. 'I can now keep good records of all my employees, their pay, hours of work etc.'.

AS Project Title: FLOOD GARDEN SERVICES – Invoice system

Assessment Criteria	Maximum Marks Available	Mark Range Awarded	Comments
Analysis	15	11 -13	A suitable problem for AS offering adequate scope. The investigation has identified the problems and inefficiencies with the current system but the overall clarity of the report could have been enhanced by including suitable evidence from the existing documentation. The user requirements for the new system have been clearly stated and justified. The outputs/reports required from the system have not been described with sufficient clarity at this stage. The translation of user requirements into information requirements is methodically dealt with. The DFD included does not add to the clarity of the analysis!
Design	20	15-17	A clear structured design to a demanding problem. Detailed consideration has been given to the output/input and data checking with appropriate error messages. Processing is also a major aspect of design documentation and in this project 'Macros' are the major vehicle for achieving this. It would have been appropriate to describe clearly the background for each macro including suitable algorithms for these. Method of Software development was fully discussed, including reasons for selection, with descriptions of features to be used.
SW Dev. & Tec Doc	25	19 -21	Evidence of a structured and effective software solution that reflects the design plans. Generic and package specific skills have been employed in an effective and appropriate way. The planned data checking and control have been built into the solution. Many of the important aspects of the software development have been described in suitable technical detail. Aspects of the solution were also annotated at appropriate stages.
Testing	20	16 - 18	There is evidence of an effective test strategy and plan for a demanding task. The test results have been well documented and cross-referenced to the plan. No documentation of corrective actions taken in response to tests which exposed bugs or incorrect results. Screen shots including commentaries are included as evidence.
User Guide	10	9 - 10	Comprehensive guide for a complex system, well presented, all appropriate components included and described in suitable detail.
Evaluation	10	9 - 10	The effectiveness of the solution to a substantial project has been fully assessed. Realistic suggestions have been made for possible future enhancements. The candidate has also shown an understanding of the limitations and inadequacies of the new system.

AS Project Title: Graan Nursing Home Website

Assessment Criteria	Maximum Marks Available	Marks Range Awarded	Comments
Analysis	15	11 - 13	Suitable task undertaken offering the student adequate scope. Realistic client-user requirements derived in terms of general objectives and expanded via investigation into detailed specific information requirements. There was a reasonable attempt to profile the anticipated end users (web-user) and an awareness shown that this can have a major impact on the eventual design of a web site. The problems/inefficiencies with the current system have been discussed. The translation of user requirements into information requirements is methodically dealt with. There is an awareness that the client-user is unclear about their needs which justifies the need to employ an evolutionary prototyping approach. It is encouraging to see an attempt to commit the client-user to agreeing to a set of performance criteria.
Design	20	15-17	Evidence of a clear coherent design with well-annotated design plans describing data structures and intended use of specialized web page features. S ome aspects in this section lack sufficient depth of documentation. Little attention given to describing data checking controls although there is evidence of appropriate validation in the 'Web application form' and in the testing section. An algorithm for the processing of submitted data could have been described in this section but is apparent in other sections. The outline of hardware and software could have distinguished between the platforms needed for development and those for the eventual Web end-user. The complex structures described have the potential to meet all the agreed user requirements.
SW Dev. & Tec Doc	25	19-21	Clear evidence of a full and effective software solution to a demanding task. Advanced generic and package specific skills have been fully employed in an effective and appropriate way. The data and processing structures are well described. Appropriate data checking and data control procedures have been built into the solution. The hardware and software configurations for the staging, testing and production servers are described, but not in sufficient technical detail. The publishing and backup aspects of the development have not been described in adequate detail in this section but the user guide does deal with these aspects.
Testing	20	15-17	The testing strategy is clear and comprehensive however the application testing plan is not explicit with limited treatment given to functional and integration testing. The use of the performance criteria outlined in the Analysis section to facilitate user acceptance testing is very appropriate and enhances this section. The results of the tests are cross-referenced and well annotated. The Metadata has not been tested and this has not been

			acknowledged in the documentation. There is no evidence tendered to prove that the site has really gone live on a production server!
User Guide	10	9 - 10	Appropriately in this case the user documentation is aimed at the web master and is technical in nature. It focuses rightly on the day-to-day operations necessary to keep the site up to date and secure. The user is referred to more detailed technical data contained in the software development section where necessary. Good use has been made of screen dumps to illustrate complex tasks.
Evaluation	10	9 - 10	The effectiveness of the solution to a substantial project has been fully assessed. Awareness has been shown for limitations of the system and possible future enhancements. The use of the performance criteria outlined in the Analysis section to facilitate user signing off for the package is very appropriate and enhances this section. The actual acceptance document could have been presented in a more professional manner e.g. Company title and icon in the header etc.

Additional comments:

- If material relevant for a particular section is misplaced or in another section a teacher comment to this effect on the record sheet justifying the mark allocated greatly assists the moderation process.

- The mechanics of classroom web site project delivery is complex and it will be some time before the classroom teacher will master all aspects. While publishing on the WWW (production server) is important, a project can gain quite high marks by publishing on a LAN server only. However a web site that has not been published or has only been published at standalone (Localhost server) level will not qualify for the higher marks (in the latter case the server can only support a single user being online. A major reason for any Web site is to allow for simultaneous access!).