COMPUTER SCIENCE
HIGHER LEVEL (ALL questions)  STANDARD LEVEL (questions 1-14)
PAPER 1

MOCK EXAM

HL - 2 hours 10 minutes
SL - 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• Do not turn over this examination paper until instructed to do so.
• Answer all questions.
Answer all questions. Write all answers on the lined paper provided.

1. Outline how backups can prevent data loss. [2 marks]

2. Explain how data is exchanged between RAM, the CPU, and cache memory. [2 marks]

3. Outline what happens in RAM when the Operating System starts an application. [2 marks]

4. (a) Convert the decimal number 56 to binary. [1 mark]

   (b) Convert the binary number 01011100 to hexadecimal (base 16). [1 mark]

5. Outline two essential functions of a compiler. [2 marks]

6. Outline a software solution that can reduce the amount of time required to transmit data in a Wide Area Network. [2 marks]

7. Explain what a truncation error is, including an example of when it might occur. [2 marks]

8. Outline one advantage of creating a prototype before designing a computer system. [2 mark]

9. An external hard-disk is considerably slower than an internal hard-disk. [2 marks]
   Explain two reasons that an external hard-disk is better than an internal hard-disk for making backup copies, despite the slower speed.
#10

The GOOD STUFF company has a web-site, where anybody can place orders for products.

To place an order, the customer must:
- choose a product
- enter customer name
- enter customer's address
- enter a credit card number

The order is then printed on paper and sent to a warehouse, where the products are packaged and delivered. Orders are shipped without any verification.

(a) Outline how data validation might be used during the ordering process. [1 mark]

(b) Explain the difference between data validation and data verification. [2 marks]

(c) Outline how the web-server can securely store the user's private data, preventing GOOD STUFF employees from stealing and misusing bank information. [2 marks]

The web-site must maintain a list of all the items they sell, with prices, as well as all the customer data (name, address, credit card). The web-server must also communicate with the customers and print a paper order that is sent to the GOOD STUFF warehouse.

(d) Draw a diagram showing how data moves between the following modules: [5 marks]

- Customer's PC
- Web server
- Product and Prices Database
- Printing paper order
#11

(a) Outline how a Bubble Sort algorithm functions. [2 marks]

(b) Assume that a Bubble Sort algorithm requires 10 seconds to sort an array containing 1 million numbers. State approximately how long the same algorithm would require to sort 4 million numbers. [2 marks]

(c) Using pseudocode, construct an algorithm that finds the LARGEST value in an array that contains 1 million numbers. Assume that the numbers are already stored in an array named DATA. Do NOT assume that the numbers are sorted – they are in a random order. [4 marks]

(d) Assume that your algorithm in part (c) requires 2 seconds to find the largest value in an array of 1 million numbers. State how long the same algorithm would require to find the largest number in an array containing 4 million numbers. [2 marks]

#12

A college occupies a building on three levels. A computer network, using wires, is in place but needs to be extended. It is suggested that the current system be replaced by a wireless network which provides connection to a file server and a separate gateway out to the Internet.

(a) State 3 groups of stakeholders who should be involved in the problem investigation and analysis. [3 marks]

(b) Outline one method for obtaining needs and requests from a large group of stakeholders (say 1000 people). [1 mark]

(c) Assuming that the network software will NOT include a GUI interface, describe two usability issues that should be considered carefully during the design phase. [4 marks]

(d) Describe one ethical problem that might result from a lack of clear and thorough user documentation. [2 marks]
#13
The flowchart below represents an algorithm that displays a sequence of numbers. 
The word “even” means that a number is evenly divisible by 2, for example 4, 6, 8, 10.

(a) Read the algorithm and state the sequence of numbers that it produces.  
[4 marks]

(b) Draw a flowchart for an algorithm that ADDS UP the following numbers and outputs the total.  
\[ 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + \ldots + 65536 \]  
[6 marks]
An airport uses a computer system to check in passengers for flights. An airline employee scans each passenger's passport to identify the passenger. Then a central computer searches for a corresponding reservation. Finally, the clerk can select a seat for the passenger and record this in the database. Then a paper boarding card is printed and given to the passenger, who walks to the boarding gate.

When passengers board the plane, a stewardess scans each passenger's passport again, as well as scanning the boarding card. The passport and boarding card are checked against the central database, to make sure that the passenger is boarding the correct plane.

(a) Explain the role of optical character recognition in this system. [2 marks]

(b) Explain why automatic facial recognition is not needed in this system. [2 marks]

(c) Describe the need for a network in this system. [2 marks]

(d) Discuss one advantage and one disadvantage of using a wired network as opposed to using a wireless network for this system. [4 marks]

(e) Describe one advantage of using RFID chips in the boarding cards rather than just using simple paper cards. [2 marks]
#15

There are many possible ways to store a list of data in a computer. One possibility is to use an array. Another possibility is to use a collection. An array is a static data structure, whereas a collection is a dynamic data structure.

(a) Explain the major difference between static and dynamic data structures. [2 marks]

A stack is a list with specific access methods:
- push(DATA) is used to put a value into a stack
- pop() is used to remove an item from a stack

Study the following algorithm.

```plaintext
// Assume INFO is a stack that is empty
// Assume NAMES is an array containing 5 names
NAMES = ["Al","Betty","Carl","Deb","Ed"]
loop C from 0 to 4
   DATA = NAMES[C]
   INFO.push( DATA )
end loop
loop while not INFO.isEmpty()
   DATA = INFO.pop()
   output DATA
end loop
```

(b) State what will be displayed by the algorithm above - be sure to write your solution in the correct order. [3 marks]

(c) Explain the essential difference between a stack and a queue. [2 marks]

The diagram below shows a Linked-List, with appropriate pointers.

```plaintext
HEAD ———> Alexander | next ———> Mary | next ———> Zeke | null
```

(d) Explain the meaning of "null" in the diagram above. [1 mark]

(e) Explain what would be accomplished by the following command:

```plaintext
HEAD = HEAD.next
```

[2 marks]
#16

A candy company is designing a new **automated vending machine**, where customers can buy candy. These machines will be available in airports, shopping malls, on street corners, etc.

The goal is to make the machines work without using cash. They intend to create a system so that customers can pay by using their mobile phone. They will place a call to a phone number printed on the front of the machine and place their order. Then the candy will slide out of a slot in the machine. The candy company will collect money from the customer's telephone account.

The vending machines should be further automated. By using facial recognition technology, the vending machine will display advertisements chosen according to gender and age. For example, the machine might advertise chewing gum for girls, chocolate for boys, mints for men, etc.

The advertising choices will be based on the items that have actually been purchased by customers in the past. A large database will collect data on all the transactions over a long period of time, and analyze popularity according to age and gender. For this to be useful, the vending machines must have a permanent connection to the central database.

(a) Describe a type of sensor that could be used to activate the advertising screen whenever a pedestrian comes close to the machine. [2 marks]

(b) The processing for the facial recognition could be performed directly inside the vending machine, or it could be performed by a central computer. Describe one advantage and one disadvantage of using a central computer for doing the facial recognition processing. [3 marks]

(c) Assuming that the facial recognition is performed by a central computer, outline three other needs for three different microprocessors in the vending machine. [3 marks]

(d) The vending machine might require a secondary storage device.

   Explain how the vending machine could display graphical advertisements if it does NOT contain a secondary storage device. [2 marks]
Below is a balanced binary search tree.

(a) State what would be printed by a PRE-ORDER traversal of this tree. [2 marks]

(b) Explain where a new node containing "Louise" would be added to this tree. [1 mark]

(c) Explain why deleting a node from a binary-search tree could be significantly more complex than adding a new node. [2 marks]

(d) Draw a binary tree which correctly represents this formula:

\[(a + b) / (c - d*e)\] [3 marks]

(e) Look at your answer to (d). State what would be printed by a POST-ORDER traversal of the formula tree. [2 marks]