

COM 110



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
ACADEMICS, STUDENT AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH

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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2020 /2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR  
EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(COMPUTER SCIENCE)

COURSE CODE: COM 110 / MSE 101  
COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS  
AND COMPUTING

DATE: 19/02/2021 TIME: 0900 – 1200 HRS

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INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 3 PRINTED PAGES  
PLEASE TURN OVER

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- i. Answer **ALL** questions from section A and any **THREE** from section B.
- ii. Maps and diagrams should be used whenever they serve to illustrate the answer.
- iii. Do not write on the question paper.

**SECTION A (24 MARKS) COMPULSORY**

**QUESTION ONE [12 MARKS]**

- a) In relation to operating systems, explain: [3 Marks]
  - i. Operating system
  - ii. Booting
  - iii. Cold boot
- b) Outline four factors to consider when buying a computer. [4 Marks]
- c) Explain the key characteristics that distinguish each of the five computer generations. [5 Marks]

**QUESTION TWO [12 MARKS]**

- a) What is a secondary storage device? [2 Marks]
- b) Explain the various computers that fall into Microcomputer category. [4 Marks]
- c) Discuss the different components that make up the Central processing unit. [6 Marks]

**SECTION B [36 Marks] Answer any THREE questions**

**QUESTION THREE [12 MARKS]**

- a) Referring to computer application software:
  - i. Define the term 'application software' [2 Marks]
  - ii. Identify and explain any three application software that are commonly used in educational institutions today. [3 Marks]
- b) Identify and explain three functions of operating systems. [4 Marks]
- c) Give any three examples of Development Programs briefly explaining their application. [3 Marks]

**QUESTION FOUR [12 MARKS]**

- a) State four reasons that make computer networks crucial in an organization. [4 Marks]
- b) Differentiate between Local Area Network and Wide Area Network with respect to their usage. [4 Marks]
- c) Explain the trend in the computer technology revolution. [4 Marks]

**QUESTION FIVE [12 MARKS]**

- a) Describe RAM, and explain its importance in computers. [4 marks]
- b) With the aid of a diagram, describe the functions of main units of the Central Processing Unit (CPU) and outline their functions. [6 Marks]
- c) In today's world, computers are essential in various applications and processes. List two uses of computers in the world today. [2 Marks]

**QUESTION SIX [12 MARKS]**

- a) Briefly discuss what are peripherals and indicate the examples [4 Marks]
- b) System software is classified into various sub-classes. State and briefly describe two subclasses of system software, giving appropriate examples. [4 Marks].
- c) In buying computers, there are some factors you will need to consider. Explain any five such factors. [4 Marks]

**QUESTION SEVEN [12 MARKS]**

- a) Identify and explain any four sources of security threats to computer systems. [4 Marks]
  
- b) Describe three mechanisms that can be applied to protect computer systems. [3 Marks]
  
- c) With a diagram, demonstrate an architecture that clearly highlights the of computer organization, and describe the various parts and their importance. [5 Marks]

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