

software
Application

CHAPTER 15:

PASTPAPERS

N.B. These pastpapers may rely on the knowledge gained from the previous chapters.

1 SEC'94-PAPER 1-Q6

You have a choice of buying either an electronic typewriter, or a computer with word processing software. State your choice and give three reasons:

Your choice: _____

First reason _____

_____ [2]

Second reason: _____

_____ [2]

Third reason: _____

_____ [2]

2 SEC'94-PAPER 1-Q9

(i) An application package performs tasks such as accounts, stock control, word-processing etc. Mention TWO legal ways such software may be acquired:

a. _____ [1]

b. _____ [1]

(ii) From your experience in using an application package, give ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of such a package.

Advantage _____ [2]

Disadvantage _____ [2]

Use the following list of words to fill in:

Calculations *numbers* *cell* *columns*
Automatically *Rows* *accountants* *cost accounting*
text *formula*

A spreadsheet is a sheet of paper divided into _____ and _____ . These sheets are used by _____ for carrying out complex _____. The advantage of an electronic spreadsheet is that _____, _____ and formulas can be entered into each _____. If a _____ is entered, the spreadsheet will carry out any calculations specified. This ability to _____ calculate figures makes spreadsheets ideal for planning applications, such as _____ .

[5]

7 SEC'97-PAPER 1-Q4 (CONSULT CH 11)

Mention ONE typical application for each of the following software packages.

The first one is done for you.

a. A wordprocessor: *Writing a book*

b. A spreadsheet _____

_____ [2]

c. A text editor: _____

_____ [2]

d. An interpreter: _____

_____ [2]

e. A compiler: _____

_____ [2]

12 SEC '99-PAPER 1-Q6

With reference to *word-processing*, briefly explain what each of the following means:

- (a) Character attributes: _____ [1]
- (b) Text justification: _____ [1]
- (c) Print preview: _____ [1]
- (d) Undo function: _____ [1]

15 SEC '00-PAPER 1-Q9 (CONSULT CH 13)

Most modern software is distributed on a **CD** and needs to be **installed** before it can be used. Also, there is little **printed documentation** nowadays, since the user manual is usually **online**.

- a. Give one reason why software is nowadays distributed on CD instead of floppy diskettes. [2]

- b. Mention **TWO** things which happen during the installation process. [2]

- c. What is **ONLINE DOCUMENTATION**? [2]

- d. Mention **TWO** advantages of having documentation online instead of in printed form. [2]

16 SEC '00-PAPER 1-Q11 (CONSULT CH 3)

Which **FIVE** of the following software packages would be most suitable for each of the applications listed below?

<i>DBMS</i>	<i>DTP package</i>	<i>Image processing package</i>
<i>Spreadsheet</i>	Wordprocessor	Drawing package
Personal information	Management software	Web browser

APPLICATION	MOST APPROPRIATE SOFTWARE PACKAGE
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Keeping student records: _____	[1]
Online shopping: _____	[1]
Designing the layout of a newspaper _____	[1]
Retouching a photograph _____	[1]
Keeping an address book and appointments diary: _____	[1]

17 SEC '01-PAPER 1-Q11

This question is related to computer graphics

Name TWO methods you could use to directly convert the diagram shown below into a digital form that could be used by a software package.

1. _____

2. _____



[1]

[1]

Graphics programs use either bitmap or vector graphics. Images are stored and manipulated differently by these programs. For each of the following, tick (✓) the columns to show whether bitmapped or vector graphics is more appropriate. [2]

	Bitmapped graphics	Vector graphics
Changing the colour of individual pixels on an image		
CAD programs		
Using coordinates to store simple shapes in memory		
Changing the size of a logo		

18 SEC '01-P2B-Q7 (CONSULT CHs 9 & 14)

(a) Define the terms *system software* and *application software*. [2]

(b) State for each of the following software whether it is of system or application type.

<i>Format utility</i>	<i>presentation graphics</i>
<i>Database system</i>	<i>editor</i>
<i>Anti-virus software</i>	<i>spreadsheet</i>
<i>Operating system</i>	<i>assembler</i>

[4]

(c) Most of the common features found in a word-processor are:

<i>Set font</i>	<i>find/replace</i>
<i>Set margin</i>	<i>word wrap</i>
<i>Spell check</i>	<i>centering of text</i>
<i>Mail merge</i>	<i>print preview</i>

Describe *mail merge* and any other **THREE** features from above. [8]

(d) What does *e-mail* stand for? State ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of using *e-mail* in an office. [3]

21 SEC '03-PAPER 1 Q3

Explain the following features as used in a word processing program.

a. Word wrap [2]

b. Find and replace [2]

c. Mail merge [2]

22 SEC '03-PAPER 1 Q8 (CONSULT CH 4)

Name ONE advantage in using:

a. an electronic spreadsheet for processing class results. [2]

b. electronic mail to send a weekly 'newsletter' to all employees of a large company. [2]

c. a digital camera to take photos for a magazine. [2]

d. a computer controlled simulator to train aircraft pilots. [2]

(d) Computer simulation is sometimes used to help forecast the weather.

- i. What is computer simulation? [1]
- ii. Give THREE advantages of using simulation techniques to forecast the weather. [3]
- iii. Name another application that uses simulation, explaining the reasons for its use. [3]

1. Write the correct term for the following descriptions. (The answer for the first description is given.)

- a. Description : A popular type of device for generating hard-copies which is expensive to run.

Answer : Ink jet printer

- b. Description : The physical components of a computer system, including the peripherals.

..... [1]

- c. Description : This type of software offers advantages and ease of use when producing a simple document such as a letter.

..... [1]

- d. Description : This piece of hardware is mainly made up of the control unit, the Arithmetic Logical Unit and a number of registers.

..... [1]

- e. Description : An application software that serves as a teaching tool.

..... [1]

31 SEC '05-PAPER 1 Q5

For each of the following computer applications, suggest, *with reason*, a suitable application software.

(a) Store student data and output reports when required.

(i) Application software _____

(ii) Reason _____

[2]

(b) Send a short message to a friend together with some pictures which you previously stored on your computer.

(i) Application software _____

(ii) Reason _____

[2]

(c) Store monthly sale amounts and perform breakdown analysis on sale items.

(i) Application software _____

(ii) Reason _____

[2]

(d) Use the computer to look up information about your favourite pop singer.

(i) Application software _____

(ii) Reason _____

[2]

Mention TWO *different* uses of computers in each of the following application areas:

(a) education;

(i) _____

(ii) _____ [2]

(b) travel;

(i) _____

(ii) _____ [2]

(c) home;

(i) _____

(ii) _____ [2]

33 SEC '05-PAPER 2A Q3 (CONSULT CH 7)

(a) Consider the computer system specifications given in the advertisement below.

1. Intel Pentium III CPU 700Hz
2. 32 KB Level 1 cache memory
3. PIII ATX motherboard
4. 64MB DIMM memory (RAM)
5. 20GB Seagate Hard drive
6. 8MB AGP video adapter
7. DVDROM - Samsung 16x
8. 10/100 Base T Genius PCI network card
9. 56K Internal Fax/Data modem
10. 1.44MB Floppy drive
11. 14" Digital monitor
12. PS/2 mouse
13. PS/2 Windows keyboard
14. 160W Amplifier speaker

Each part of a computer has a specific task or purpose. The items labelled from A to F in the table below refer to some of these tasks. For each description in the table, find the component in the list of specifications (1– 14) given in the box, which matches it. The first answer is given as an example.

- Write down only the letters **A** to **F**, and the line number from the advertisement which matches the description, next to the letter.

Example: X : 14

Letter	Description
Example: X	Plays sound Answer: 14
A	This component reads removable disks which are large enough to contain a cinema movie.
B	This component is responsible for executing all instructions.
C	This is a non-removable permanent storage component.
D	This is where instructions which might be used next by the processor are stored for quick access.
E	This is used to communicate with other computers with the use of a telephone line.
F	This is used to connect to a LAN.

- (b) What does GUI stand for? Name TWO characteristics of a GUI. [6]
- (c) What is a *buffer* and what is its purpose? [3]
- (d) Discuss the difference between *single tasking* and *multi tasking* operating systems. [2]
- (e) (i) Define the terms *batch processing*. [2]
- (ii) Describe an application for which batch processing might be used. [2]
- (f) What is a *bootstrap loader*? [1]
- (g) What is meant by a *user interface*? [1]

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1		Maths	English	Maltese	History	Geography			
2	Andrew	82	38	74	54	59			
3	Christine	50	25	95	61	90			
4	Duke	26	64	98	52	52			
5	Mark	85	58	83	45	73			
6	Paul	55	82	25	44	66			
7	Susan	10	62	94	44	78			
8									

A class teacher makes use of a spreadsheet to record the results obtained by her students in various subjects.

- Mention TWO advantages of using a spreadsheet for such a task. [2]
- Write down the formula to find the average of Mark's results [2]
- Mention a function to find the highest mark for a student in her class. [3]
- How can a graph/chart be created from the data in a spreadsheet? [1]
- Describe TWO validation methods which may be used to make sure that subject marks are valid. [4]
- Complete the sentences using words from the following list: [5]

function

formula

cell

copy

label

[5]

A _____ is the place on a spreadsheet in which only one single entry can be placed

A _____ is the way a calculation is represented in a spreadsheet.

A _____ is a special type of formula used in a spreadsheet.

A _____ stores text and is used as a title for rows and columns.

_____ is the process of placing data into a new location.

In the classroom, **computer simulation** may be used as an aid to learning.

- a) What do you understand by the term **computer simulation** as a form of CAL (Computer aided Learning)? [2]

- b) Give one example, with reason, where computer simulation may be used to aid learning *in the classroom environment*. [2]

- c) Give one reason why although computer simulation may be recommendable, still it is not used in the classroom environment. [2]

Application software may have different user licenses. Two types of user licenses are **freeware** and **shareware**.

- a) Distinguish between the two different user licenses. [4]

- b) State *one* advantage of using licensed software. [1]

a) What is the purpose of an Operating System? Give ONE example of an Operating System of your choice. [3]

b) Copy and fill in the missing spaces in the table below with one of the application programs listed underneath. The options may be assigned more than once. [8]

Application Programs:

Web Browser	Word Processor	E-Mail Program
Spreadsheet	Graphics Package	Database Package

Action	Software
Writing a letter	
Looking for information over the internet	
Finding a book by author in the library	
Calculating the average mark	
Modify Clipart	
Sending a message	
Storing student records for a school	
Drawing a picture	

c) What is the use of installing anti-virus software? Why are anti-virus applications essential for a computer with an internet connection? [2]

d) When accessing personal data over the internet, a password is normally required. What is the use of having a password? [2]

e) Define the abbreviation CAD. Give one application for CAD. [2]

