

General Certificate of Education June 2010

Computing

COMP3

Unit 3 Problem Solving, Programming, Operating Systems, Databases and Networking

Final

Mark Scheme

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2010 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

COPYRIGHT

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

The Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 3644723) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1073334). Registered address: AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX

Notation used in mark scheme:

; - means a single mark

// - means alternative response

/ - means an alternative word or sub-phrase

A - means acceptable creditworthy answer

R - means reject answer as not creditworthy

I - means ignore

DPT - don't penalise twice. A mistake that might otherwise result in the loss of more than one mark should only lose the first mark. Subsequently the mistake should be ignored.

1	(a)	required // only one pathway required // cheaper to cable // no risk of data skew // easier to repeat/regenerate/switch // switching equipment/repeater design is easier/cheaper // no crosstalk; R Cheaper NE	
		R Cannot get out of synch	1
1	(b)	Parity Bit: 1; Start bit, Stop Bit: Can be either 0 or 1, but must both be different to get mark;	2
1	(c)	Definition (1 mark): Receiver and transmitter (clocks) do not need to be/are not (exactly) synchronised // transmission of data without use of external clock signal // receiver and transmitter clock only synchronised at start of/for length of transmission // data sent as soon as available rather than waiting for clock pulse/synchronisation symbol; Explanation of start and stop bits (2 marks): Start bit synchronises receiver (clock) (to transmitter/data) // locks receiver and transmitter in phase // starts receiver's clock // wakes receiver; Stop bit allows start bit to be recognised // allows receiver to process received bits; Start and stop bits indicate when data is being transmitted/begins; MAX 2	3
		To hide the correlation of the bonds are from the corre # Day 1 to 1	
2	(a)	To hide the complexities of the hardware from the user // Provision of virtual machine; R Provision of user interface NE A machine for hardware but R system, computer Manages the hardware (resources) // allocation of hardware resources	
		(to processes); A Examples of resources	2

2 (b) Subject-related points:

Desktop computer used for many different/generic purposes; so ...

- desktop OS must support a wide range of peripherals/storage devices;
- desktop OS must run wide range of software/packages;
- desktop OS more customisable (by user);
- desktop OS must manage security;

Desktop computer requirements more likely to change over time // more likely to want to add new features/support new applications; so....

desktop OS has modular design / easier to upgrade;

Desktop computers made by many different manufacturers // to varying specifications; so....

desktop OS must run on wider range of hardware platforms;

Desktop computer more likely to be networked; so...

• desktop OS must support networking protocols;

Embedded systems (often) made at low cost // may have minimal processing requirement; so...

• embedded system OS has lower hardware requirements (allow e.g. such as slower processor, less RAM);

Embedded systems have few inputs and outputs to user; so...

- embedded system OS provides no/minimal user interface;
- embedded system OS designed to deal with input from sensors // output to control devices;

Embedded systems (often) in battery powered devices; so...

 managing power consumption particularly important; A example of power management

Embedded systems (are sometimes) real-time // for safety-critical applications; so...

- real-time embedded system OS must be designed to guarantee speed of response // respond very quickly;*
- real-time embedded system OS must deal with many inputs simultaneously;*
- real-time embedded system OS may need to be failsafe;*
- real-time embedded system OS may incorporate redundancy;*
- * These points only valid if real-time system specifically referenced.

Accept any mix of points. The reason (in italics) does not have to be stated to award a mark for the difference/feature.

Accept converse of the points if the point itself has not been given.

3-4	K Bands and Description To achieve a mark in this band, candidates must meet				
		iect criterion (SUB) and 4 of the 5 quality of			
	written communication criteria (QWCx).				
	SUB	Candidate has made three or more relevant points.			
	QWC1	Text is legible.			
	QWC2				
	QWC3	The candidate has selected and used a form and style of writing appropriate to the purpose and has expressed ideas clearly and fluently.			
	QWC4	Sentences and paragraphs follow on from one another clearly and coherently.			
	QWC5	used.			
2	the subj	eve a mark in this band, candidates must meet iect criterion (SUB) and 4 of the 5 quality of communication criteria (QWCx).			
	SUB	Candidate has made two relevant points.			
	QWC1				
	QWC2	•			
	QWC3	The candidate has, in the main, used a form and style of writing appropriate to the purpose, with occasional lapses. The candidate has expressed ideas clearly and reasonably			
	QWC4	fluently. The candidate has used well-linked sentences and paragraphs.			
	QWC5	. • .			
1	the subj	eve a mark in this band, candidates must meet iect criterion (SUB). The quality of written nication should be typified by the QWCx			
	Stateme	rns.			
	SUB	Candidate has made just one relevant point.			
	QWC1	·			
	QWC2				
	QWC3	The candidate has used a form and style of writing which has many deficiencies. Ideas are			
	QWC4	well-connected or bullet points may have been			
	QWC5	used. Specialist vocabulary has been used			

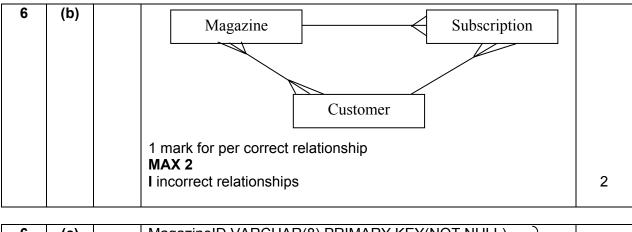
Note: Even if English is perfect, candidates can only get marks for the points made at the top of the mark scheme for this question. If a candidate meets the subject criterion in a band but does not meet the quality of written communication criteria then drop mark by one band, providing that at least 3 of the quality of written communication criteria are met in the lower band. If 3 criteria are not met then drop by two bands. 4 3 (a) $0 \bullet 1$ 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 Mantissa Exponent **1 mark** for correct bit pattern in both mantissa and exponent. 1 3 Mantissa = -0.6875 // -11/16 (b) Exponent = 3Answer = $-5.5 // -5\frac{1}{2}$ 1 method mark for either: showing correct value of both mantissa and exponent in showing binary point shifted 3 places to right within a correct binary pattern* indicating that final answer calculated using answer = mantissa $x\ 2^{\text{exponent}}$ (**A** mantissa in denary or binary but exponent must be in denary) 1 mark for correct answer * Correct binary patterns with the binary point shifted 3 places are: 0101.1000 1010.1000 1010.1 101.1000 2 101.1 3 (c) $0 \bullet 1$ 0 0 1 0 1 0 Mantissa Exponent 1 mark for correct mantissa 1 mark for correct exponent 2 3 (d) $0 \bullet 1$ 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 Exponent Mantissa 1 mark for correct mantissa 1 mark for correct exponent 2

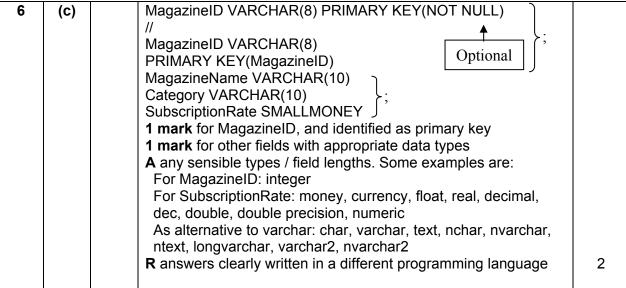
3 (e)	Definition (2 marks): The result of a calculation is too large to store/represent // a number is too large to store/represent; In the available number of bits / storage space (allow example e.g. data type, byte, word, example of a data type); R space NE	
	Example (1 mark): Multiplying two numbers together; Dividing a number by a number less than one / small number; R zero A Adding two numbers (of same sign) A When number converted from one type to another that does not have suitable range/enough bits/enough storage space to represent it A Answers by example MAX 1	3

4	(a)	Real number	Yes/No		
		203.412	Yes		
		-12.87	No		
		12.43E-12	Yes		
		1 mark per correct A other indicators Tick/Cross.		n Yes/No e.g. True/False,	3

	I .	
4	(b)	<pre><digit> ::= 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</digit></pre>
		<pre><whole-number> ::= <digit> <digit> <whole-number></whole-number></digit></digit></whole-number></pre>
		<integer> ::= <whole-number> + <whole-number> </whole-number></whole-number></integer>
		- <whole-number></whole-number>
		1 mark for each correct rule
		Alternative for integer (1 mark, accept in either order):
		<symbol> ::= + -</symbol>
		<integer> ::= <whole-number> <symbol> <whole-number></whole-number></symbol></whole-number></integer>
		A <whole-number> defined with recursion other way around, i.e.</whole-number>
		<whole-number> ::= <digit> <whole-number> <digit></digit></whole-number></digit></whole-number>
		A non-terminal names e.g. digit not enclosed in <> signs
		A spaces in non-terminal names e.g. whole number
		A terminal names enclosed in quotation marks e.g. "0", '0'.
		A any sensible symbol for assignment e.g. ←, :=, =, :
		A ; as end-of rule marker;
		A any type of slash e.g. / for alternatives but R "or"
		A use of EBNF extensions for repetition and optional terms:
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		<pre><whole-number> ::= <digit> { <digit> } </digit></digit></whole-number></pre>
		<pre><integer> ::= [+ -] <whole-number> A () for [] but R {}</whole-number></integer></pre>
		R rules that have additional options e.g. more than ten digits

		l	DDT addition of aboverno or other symbols such as breakets to	1
			DPT addition of chevrons or other symbols such as brackets to terminal symbols/rules unless they make meaning unclear	3
			torrimial dyribotorrated arrived tried make meaning arrolear	
5	(a)	(i)	O(a ⁿ); A exponential, a ⁿ	1
5	(a)	(ii)	A;	1
5	(b)	(i)	The problem can be solved // algorithm exists for problem; But it cannot be solved in polynomial time // but not quickly enough to be useful; It takes an unreasonable amount of time; to solve;	
			A too long time but R long time	2
5	(b)	(ii)	Use of heuristic; algorithm that makes a guess based on experience; That provides a close-to-optimal solution/approximation; that only works in some cases; A non-optimal Example of heuristic method e.g. hill-climbing/stochastic/local improvement/greedy algorithms/simulated annealing/trial and error/any reasonable example; Relax some of the constraints on the solution; A solve simpler version of problem MAX 2	2
6	What means: every attribute (in relation) is dependent on the key; the whole key and nothing but the key; OR (relations) contain no repeating groups (of attributes) // data is atomic; no partial dependencies; no non-key dependencies; R No repeated columns/attributes/data OR every determinant (in the relation) is a candidate key;; MAX 2			
			Why important: Eliminate update anomalies; A Example R Easy to update NE Eliminate insertion anomalies; A Example Eliminate deletion anomalies; A Example Eliminate data inconsistency // improve consistency // avoid inconsistency problems; Minimise data duplication; A Reduce for minimise R elminate Eliminate data redundancy; A Reduce/minimise for eliminate A No unnecessarily repeated data R No repeated data R Saving space/memory NE MAX 2	4

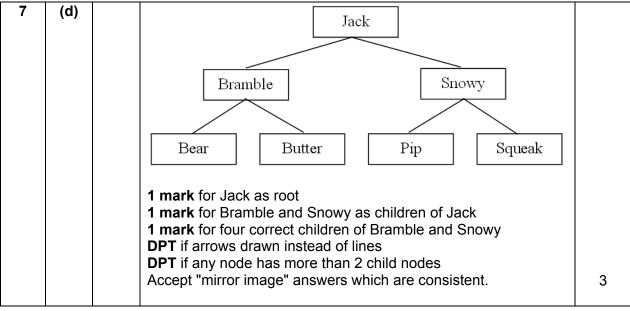




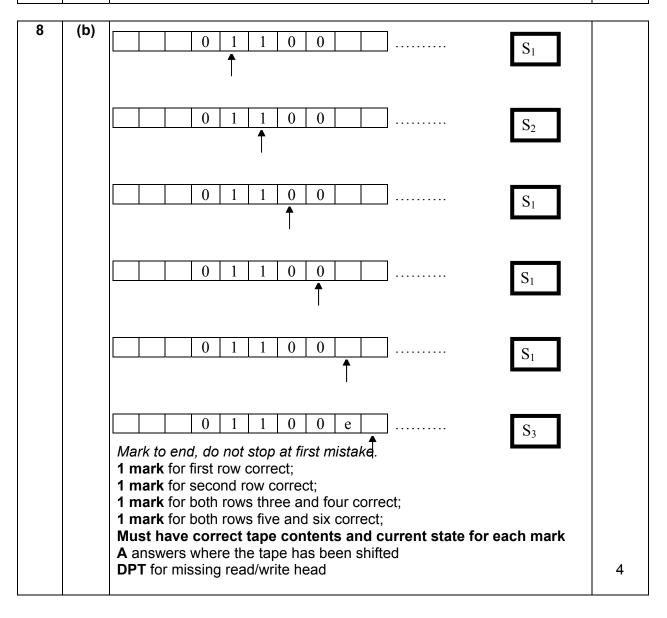
6	(d)	SELECT CustomerName, Address, Postcode FROM Magazine, Subscription, Customer WHERE MagazineName = 'AQA Computing Now' AND EndDate < '01/06/2010' AND Magazine.MagazineID = Subscription.MagazineID AND Subscription.CustomerID = Customer.CustomerID 1 mark for SELECT clause with correct three fields (allow any additional fields from relations or *) 1 mark for FROM clause with correct three tables 1 mark for MagazineName = 'AQA ComputingNow' 1 mark for EndDate < '01/06/2010' 1 mark for two clauses linking tables on the common field	
		MAX 1 of the 3 marks for conditions if not joined by ANDs	
		OR	
		SELECT CustomerName, Address, Postcode FROM Magazine INNERJOIN Subscription ON Magazine.MagazineID=Subscription.MagazineID INNERJOIN Customer ON Subscription.CustomerID=Customer.CustomerID WHERE MagazineName = 'AQA ComputingNow' AND EndDate < '01/06/2010'	
		 1 mark for SELECT clause including correct three fields (allow any additional fields from relations or *) 1 mark for correctly joining two tables in FROM clause 1 mark for correctly joining the third table in FROM clause 1 mark for MagazineName = 'AQA ComputingNow' 1 mark for EndDate < '01/06/2010' 	
		In both solutions: Do not award mark for 'AQA Computing Now' unless it is enclosed in single or double quotation marks. For EndDate, accept # symbols or no delimiting symbols. Accept EndDate day and month without preceding 0, i.e. 1/6. Accept <= '31/05/2010' for EndDate. Accept table names before fieldnames. Accept use of Alias/AS command e.g. FROM Magazine as M then use of M as table name. Accept insertion of spaces into fieldnames DPT for unnecessary punctuation – allow one semicolon at the very end of the statement, but not at the end of each clause.	
		DPT for fieldname before table name.	5

6	(e)	UPDATE Magazine	
		SET MagazineName= 'AQA Garden News'	
		WHERE MagazineName= 'AQA Gardening Monthly'	
		1 mark per correct line	
		A double or single quotes around magazine names R no quotes	
		Accept table names before fieldnames.	
		DPT for fieldname before table name.	

		MAX 2	2
	1		
7	(a)	1 2 3	
		 1 mark for all 5 lines correctly drawn 1 mark for all 5 arrowheads pointing in correct directions A arrowheads at any position on line MAX 1 if more than 5 lines drawn by candidate (note that dotted arrow is given in question) 	2
7	(b)	Adjacency matrix appropriate when there are many edges between vertices // when edges may be frequently changed // when presence/absence of specific edges needs to be tested (frequently) Adjacency list appropriate when there are few edges between vertices // when graph is sparse // when edges rarely changed //when presence/absence of specific edges does not need to be tested (frequently)	
		A alternative words which describe edge e.g. connection, line	2
7	(c)	Connected // There is a path between each pair of vertices; Undirected // No direction is associated with each edge; Has no cycles // No (simple) circuits // No closed chains // No closed paths in which all the edges are different and all the intermediate vertices are different // No route from a vertex back to itself that doesn't use an edge more than once or visit an intermediate vertex more than once; MAX 2 Alternative definitions:	
		Alternative definitions: Graph with no cycles, and a simple cycle is formed if any edge is added to it;; Graph which is connected, and it is not connected anymore if any edge is removed from it;; Graph in which any two vertices can be connected by a unique simple path;; (Note: not just adjacent vertices) Graph which is connected and has n - 1 edges where n is no of vertices;;	
		Graph which has no simple cycles and has n – 1 edges where n is no of vertices;;	2



(a)	
Numbe	r Correct Label
0	(0, 0, →)
2	S_1
6	(□, ∘, →)
•	S_3
	r 1 and 3 correct – brackets not required r 2 and 4 correct



8	(c)	Check if the tape contains an even / odd number of 1s // check parity of number on tape;		
8	Turing machines provide a (general/formal) model of computation; Provides a definition of what is computable // a task is computable if (and only if) it can be computed by a Turing machine; No computing device can be more powerful than a Turing machine // any algorithm that can be computed by any computer can be computed by a Turing machine; (The Church–Turing thesis states that) if an algorithm exists then there is an equivalent Turing machine for that algorithm // a Turing machine that can implement the algorithm; Through the Halting Problem, can be used to prove that some functions cannot be computed; MAX 2		k is computable if ne; Turing machine // uter can be computed hm exists then there // a Turing machine	
9	(a)	(i) 192.168.0.x where x is not 0 or 255;	1	
9	(a)	(ii) 192.168.2.x where x is not 0 or 255	1	
9	(a)	(iii) 192.168.2.y where y is not 0 or 255 and the different to the one in (ii)	e IP address is 1	
9	(b)	Star;	1	
9	(c)	Identify which other computers are on same segment // can have packets/data sent directly to them; Identify which other computers are on a different segment // must have packets/data sent to them via the router; R network for subnet MAX 1 255.255.255.0 / FFFFFF00 / 1111111111111111111111111		
9	(d)	Use of WEP/Wired Equivalent Privacy/WPA/WiFi File (Strong) encryption of transmitted data; R encoding User/computer must enter/send a passphrase/cert communication before laptop allowed to connect; A only allow password if used in correct context; Access point checks MAC/hardware address of laptocomputers with a MAC/hardware address in a list of addressed to connect; R IP address Disable broadcast of SSID/identity; Reduce / limit power of transmitter; MAX 2	g ificate at start of A key for passphrase otop and only allows	

9 (e) Subject-related points:

(Applies to) bus (topology);

Computer monitors/listens to (data signal on cable/bus);

If (data) signal present // if cable/bus busy continue to wait:

When no (data) signal present // when cable/bus idle start to transmit; Whilst transmitting, computer monitors cable/bus to check for collision // to check if signal is identical to what it is sending;

Collision occurs if two computers (start) sending at same time // if two packets/frames in transit at same time;

If collision detected, jamming signal/signal warning of collision sent; To ensure other (transmitting) computers aware of problem // to stop other computers sending data;

Computer that detected collision also stops sending data;

Then waits a random period before attempting to retransmit/repeating transmission/this process;

Period is random to reduce likelihood of collision recurring (between computers that caused collision);

If a collision occurs again then waits a longer random time before attempting to transmit again;

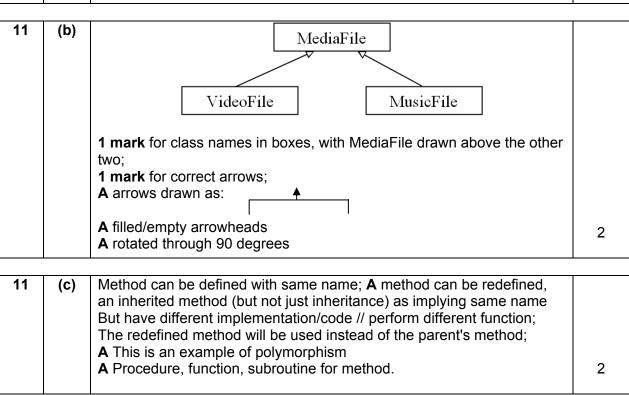
Use of exponential back-off algorithm to determine wait time;

Marl	k Bands and Description								
5-6									
	written communication criteria (QWCx).								
	SUB Candidate has produced a detailed description								
	of how CSMA/CD works, including what								
	happens if there is a collision (at least 5 points).								
	QWC1 Text is legible.								
	QWC2 There are few, if any, errors of spelling,								
	punctuation and grammar. Meaning is clear.								
	QWC3 The candidate has selected and used a form								
	and style of writing appropriate to the purpose								
	and has expressed ideas clearly and fluently.								
	QWC4 Sentences and paragraphs follow on from one								
	another clearly and coherently.								
	QWC5 Appropriate specialist vocabulary has been used.								
3-4	To achieve a mark in this band, candidates must meet								
3-4	the subject criterion (SUB) and 4 of the 5 quality of								
	written communication criteria (QWCx).								
	SUB Candidate has produced a reasonable								
	description which may or may not cover what								
	happens in the event of a collision (at least 3								
	points).								
	QWC1 Text is legible.								
	QWC2 There may be occasional errors of spelling,								
	punctuation and grammar. Meaning is clear.								
	QWC3 The candidate has, in the main, used a form and								
	style of writing appropriate to the purpose, with								
	occasional lapses. The candidate has								
	expressed ideas clearly and reasonably fluently.								
	QWC4 The candidate has used well-linked sentences								
	and paragraphs.								
	QWC5 Appropriate specialist vocabulary has been								

 		T
	used.	
	B 1 1B 10	
	R Bands and Description	
1-2	To achieve a mark in this band, candidates must meet the subject criterion (SUB). The quality of written	
	communication should be typified by the QWCx statements.	
	SUB Candidate has produced a very limited or unclear description of how CSMA/CD works.	
	QWC1 Most of the text is legible. QWC2 There may be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar but it should still be	
	possible to understand most of the response. QWC3 The candidate has used a form and style of writing which has many deficiencies. Ideas are not always clearly expressed.	
	QWC4 Sentences and paragraphs may not always be well-connected or bullet points may have been used.	
	QWC5 Specialist vocabulary has been used inappropriately or not at all.	
0	Candidate has made no relevant points.	
points	Even if English is perfect, candidates can only get marks for the made at the top of the mark scheme for this question.	
meet by on comn	andidate meets the subject criterion in a band but does not the quality of written communication criteria then drop mark see band, providing that at least 3 of the quality of written nunication criteria are met in the lower band. If 3 criteria are set then drop by two bands.	6

10	(a)					List						
		ListL	New	P	q	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]		
		ength		_	4					[3]		
		4	38	-	-	9	21	49	107			
				1							l:	
				2								
				3								
					4					107		
					3				49			
								38				
		5										
		4,5 in sequence for ListLength;										
		1,2,3 in sequence for p;										
		4,3 in sequence for q; Final list in array is 9, 21, 38, 49, 107;									4	
		Do not award a mark if additional values indicated e.g. 4 for p									•	
10	/b)	Incorto o	n itom/	oriob	lo Ne	vu into l	ist at as	rroot no	oition/n	roconin	~	
10	(b)	Inserts an item/variable New into list at <u>correct position/preserving</u> <u>order//into sorted list (or equivalent)</u> ;									1	
10	(c)	 Static structures have fixed (maximum) size whereas size of dynamic structures can change // Size of static structure fixed at compile-time whereas size of dynamic structure can change at run-time; Static structures can waste storage space/memory if the number of data items stored is small relative to the size of the structure whereas dynamic structures only take up the amount of storage space required for the actual data; Dynamic data structures (typically) require memory to store pointer(s) to the next item(s) which static structures do not need; MAX 1 A just one side of points, other side is by implication 								1		
10	(c)	(ii) Heap is pool of free/unused/available memory; Memory allocated/deallocated at run-time (to dynamic data structure); MAX 1									1	

11 A class/subclass has/shares/inherits properties and methods with the (a) (parent) class (it is derived from); A another class Building a hierarchy of classes with each child class inheriting access to its parent class's methods and properties: Relationship between two object types/objects in which one object (type) is a kind of the other; MAX 1 A Just one of properties and methods, do not need both. A The following as alternatives to properties: fields, attributes. characteristics, data with data as BOD A The following as alternatives to methods: procedures, functions, code. **A** The following as alternatives to parent: base, super. A The following as alternative to child: descendent, subclass, derived. 1



```
11
      (d)
            MusicFile = Class/Subclass (MediaFile)
                             Public
                                Procedure PlayFile (Override)
                                Function GetArtist
                                Function GetSampleRate
                                Function GetBitDepth
                             Private
                                Artist : String
                                SampleRate : Real
                                BitDepth : Integer
                           End
            1 mark for correct header including name of class and parent class;
            1 mark for redefining the PlayFile procedure;
            1 mark for defining all 3 extra functions needed to read variable values;
            1 mark for defining all 3 extra properties, with appropriate data types in
            private section;
            A any numeric types for SampleRate and BitDepth
            A answers that indicate separately that each variable is private
            DPT if any extra functions/procedures/variables included but do not
            penalise answers that have extra procedures to set variable values.
            DPT if any of the functions/procedures are private
            I parameters to methods, minor changes to names that do not affect
            clarity, case
                                         -- OR --
            (Public) class/subclass MusicFile extends/inherits
                       MediaFile {
                         public void PlayFile (Override)
                                                                           1
                         public string GetArtist()
                         public float GetSampleRate()
                         public int GetBitDepth()
                         private string Artist
                         private float SampleRate
                         private int BitDepth
            }
            1 mark for correct header including name of class and parent class;
            1 mark for redefining the PlayFile procedure;
            1 mark for defining all 3 extra functions needed to read variable values;
            1 mark for defining all 3 extra properties, with appropriate data types as
            private:
            A any numeric types for SampleRate and BitDepth
            DPT if any extra functions/procedures/variables included but do not
            penalise answers that have extra procedures to set variable values.
            DPT if any of the functions/procedures are private
            I parameters to methods, minor changes to names that do not affect
            clarity, case
                                                                                  4
              -- ACCEPT MIXES OF TWO METHODS IF MEANING IS CLEAR -
```