



Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE NAME



CENTRE NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE NUMBER

--	--	--	--



COMPUTER SCIENCE

9618/13

Paper 1 Theory Fundamentals

May/June 2025

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
- Calculators must **not** be used in this paper.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 75.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- No marks will be awarded for using brand names of software packages or hardware.

This document has **20** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



1 (a) A student paints a picture in an art class.

The student takes a photograph of the picture using a digital camera. The digital camera creates an image with a resolution of 2 million pixels and uses a bit depth of 16 bits.

(i) Calculate the file size of the image created by the digital camera in megabytes (MB).

Show your working.

Working space

.....

.....

Answer MB

[2]

(ii) The student takes a second photograph with a lower bit depth.

Explain the effect of decreasing the bit depth on the image and on the image file.

Effect on image

.....

.....

.....

Effect on image file

.....

.....

.....

[4]

(b) A teacher records an audio file of the student playing the piano during a music lesson.

Complete the table by giving the term for each description about sound representation on a computer.

Description	Term
the number of times the amplitude is measured per time interval	
the number of bits used to store each amplitude measurement	
the type of sound wave before it is recorded by a computer	

[3]





(c) The student types a report on a computer in a history lesson.

(i) The computer uses the Unicode character set.

Give **two** characteristics of the Unicode character set.

1

.....

2

.....

[2]

(ii) Some of the school's computers use the extended ASCII character set.

The table gives some characters from the extended ASCII character set, their denary, 8-bit binary and hexadecimal numbers.

Complete the table by filling in the missing numbers.

Character	Denary	8-bit Binary	Hexadecimal
!	33		21
L		01001100	4C
ü	252	11111100	

[3]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





2 A computer has a processor.

(a) The processor has a Control Unit (CU) and system clock.

(i) Explain how the CU and the system clock work together.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

(ii) The processor runs the Fetch-Execute (F-E) cycle.

Write the stages of the F-E cycle using register transfer notation.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

(b) The computer has cache memory.

Describe **one** benefit of the computer using cache memory.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

(c) The computer connects to a monitor using a High Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI) cable that connects into an HDMI port.

Explain how HDMI provides connection to peripheral devices.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN



* 000800000005 *



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





3 A programmer is writing a program in a high-level language.

(a) Complete the description of compilers and interpreters by writing the missing words.

A compiler checks all the code before attempting to translate the program. If any errors are found, they are all reported at the same time and the program does not translate or run. If there are no errors found, the compiler produces which can run without access to the

An interpreter translates one line of code and then runs it, before moving to the next line of code. If the line of code has an error, the interpreter and displays the error. The programmer can correct the error and then the interpreter continues translating from that point.

[4]

(b) The programmer needs to keep the program files secure on their computer and during electronic data transmission over the internet. The files are protected by a password.

Complete the table by identifying **one** other method of keeping the files secure during electronic data transmission **and one** other method of keeping the files secure on the computer.

State how each method protects the data.

The methods must be different.

	Method	How the method protects the data
during transmission
on the computer

[4]





- (c) The computer program allows users to play a game in a virtual world. Users can play the game from any computer with internet access using a web browser. The game allows users to interact with other users.

Explain the reasons why the statement 'This computer game uses a client-server model' is correct.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

- (d) Describe the possible consequences of the programmer **not** joining a professional ethical body.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

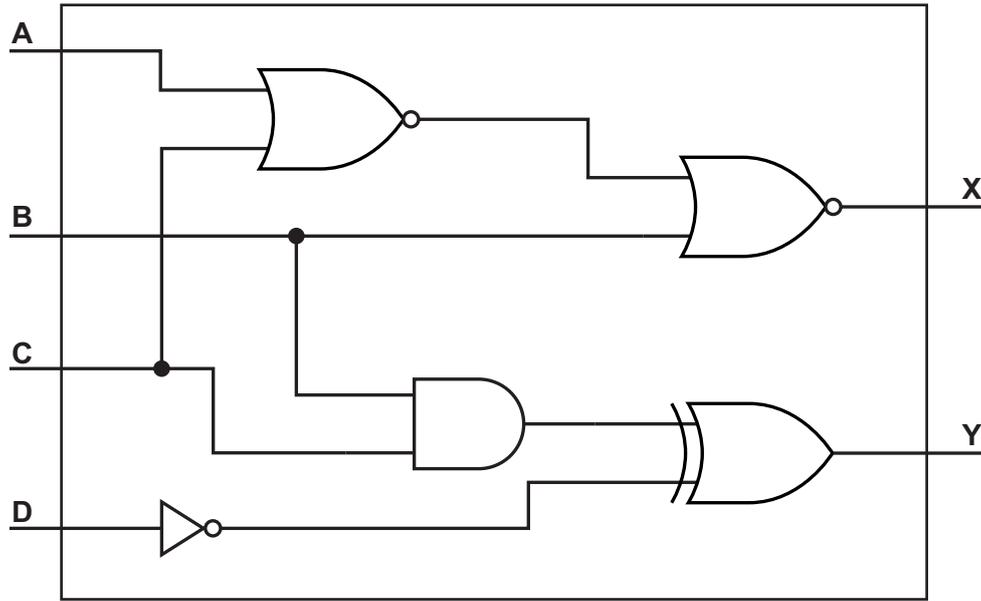
..... [3]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





4 (a) Write the logic expressions for the following logic circuit.



X =

Y =

[2]





(b) Complete the truth table for the logic expression:

$$X = (A \text{ OR } B) \text{ XOR } (B \text{ OR } C) \text{ XOR } (\text{NOT } A \text{ NAND } C)$$

A	B	C	Working space	X
0	0	0		
0	0	1		
0	1	0		
0	1	1		
1	0	0		
1	0	1		
1	1	0		
1	1	1		

[2]



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN



- 5 The following table shows part of the instruction set for a processor. The processor has two registers: the Accumulator (ACC) and an Index Register (IX).

Instruction		Explanation
Opcode	Operand	
LDM	#n	Immediate addressing. Load the number n to ACC
STO	<address>	Store the contents of ACC at the given address
ADD	#n/Bn/&n	Add the number n to the ACC
ADD	<address>	Add the contents of the given address to the ACC
SUB	<address>	Subtract the contents of the given address from the ACC
SUB	#n/Bn/&n	Subtract the number n from the ACC
DEC	<register>	Subtract 1 from the contents of the register (ACC or IX)
JMP	<address>	Jump to the given address
CMP	<address>	Compare the contents of ACC with the contents of <address>
CMP	#n	Compare the contents of ACC with number n
JPE	<address>	Following a compare instruction, jump to <address> if the compare was True
END		Return control to the operating system

ACC denotes Accumulator
 <address> can be an absolute or a symbolic address
 # denotes a denary number, e.g. #123
 B denotes a binary number, e.g. B01001010
 & denotes a hexadecimal number, e.g. &4A

- (a) The current contents of memory are:

Address	Instruction
50	47
51	48
52	49
53	50
...	
500	LDM #50
501	DEC ACC
502	CMP 51
503	JPE 505
504	JMP 501
505	STO 50
506	SUB #10
507	STO 51
508	END





(ii) Complete the table by identifying **and** describing **two** modes of addressing that are **not** used in the program in part (a).

Mode of addressing	Description
<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

[4]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





(b) The table shows part of the instruction set for a processor. The processor has one register: the Accumulator (ACC).

Instruction		Explanation
Opcode	Operand	
AND	#n/Bn/&n	Bitwise AND operation of the contents of ACC with the operand
AND	<address>	Bitwise AND operation of the contents of ACC with the contents of <address>
XOR	#n/Bn/&n	Bitwise XOR operation of the contents of ACC with the operand
XOR	<address>	Bitwise XOR operation of the contents of ACC with the contents of <address>
OR	#n/Bn/&n	Bitwise OR operation of the contents of ACC with the operand
OR	<address>	Bitwise OR operation of the contents of ACC with the contents of <address>

<address> can be an absolute or a symbolic address
denotes a denary number, e.g. #123
B denotes a binary number, e.g. B01001010
& denotes a hexadecimal number, e.g. &4A

Write the bit manipulation instructions that can be used to set only the most significant bit to 1 in an 8-bit register.

The instructions need to work on a register that contains any 8-bit binary number.

.....

..... [2]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





6 A shop sells pens to customers. Customers place an order with the shop and collect the items the next day. The shop uses a database to store the information about the orders.

The database contains the following tables:

CUSTOMER(CustomerID, CustomerName, Email)

ORDER(OrderID, CustomerID, Date, Collected)

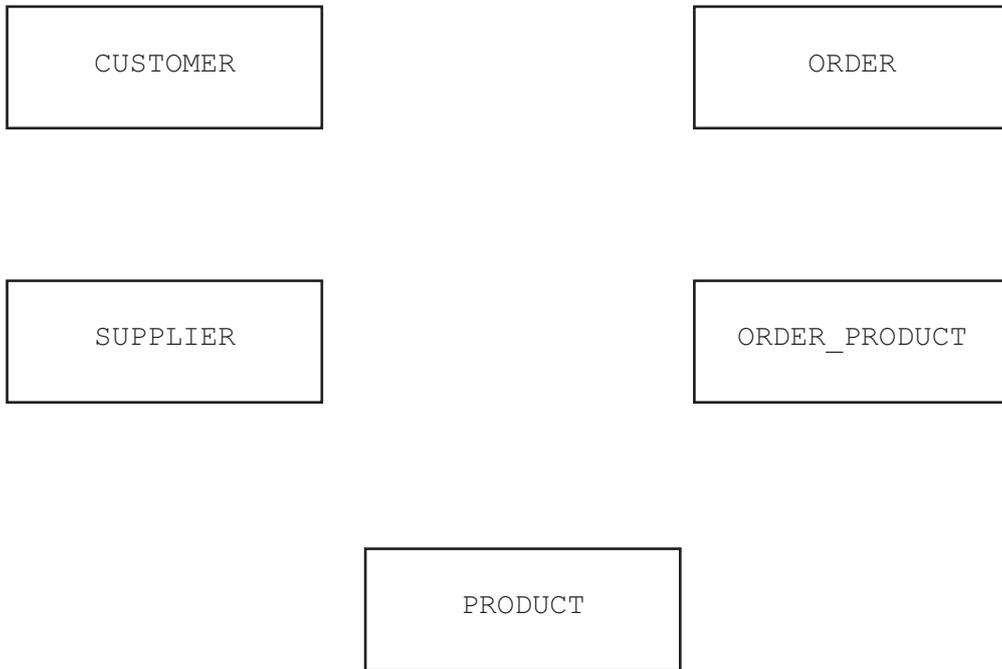
ORDER_PRODUCT(OrderID, ProductID, Quantity)

PRODUCT(ProductID, ProductName, QuantityInBox, Cost, SupplierID)

SUPPLIER(SupplierID, SupplierName, SupplierEmail)

The primary keys are underlined.

(a) Complete the entity-relationship (E-R) diagram for the database.



[4]





(d) The shop uses a Database Management System (DBMS).

(i) One feature provided by a DBMS is a data dictionary.

The data dictionary stores the attribute names, table names, foreign keys and primary keys in the database.

Identify **three** other items stored in a data dictionary.

1

2

3

[3]

(ii) The DBMS provides a developer interface.

Explain how a database designer can make use of the developer interface.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

7 (a) A computer can perform logical and arithmetic shifts.

(i) Show the result of a logical left shift of 2 places on the two's complement binary integer 11001010

.....
..... [1]

(ii) Show the result of an arithmetic right shift of 3 places on the two's complement binary integer 10011110

.....
..... [1]

(b) Complete the following binary addition. Show your working. Include any overflow bit(s).

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1 \\
 +\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

[1]

(c) Subtract the binary number 00011110 from the binary number 01100100 using binary subtraction. Show your working.

[2]





* 00080000019 *



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN





Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.

