

Computer Studies Revision Questions for Candidates

The Computer: History and Present

1. When was the **first computer** offered to the public and what was its name?
2. How do you think society will be different if scientists are able to create a chip that will perform a **trillion** operations in a **single second**?
3. Outline the basic features of the first generation computers as held in the books of history of computing.
4. Mention **four** main characteristics of first generation computers
5. State the possible disadvantages of the second generation computers to man.
6. Distinguish between the second and fourth generation computers.
7. How are computers used in supermarkets and hospitals?
8. How are computers used in **two** of the following:
 - a. Home
 - b. School
 - c. Industry
 - d. Retailing
 - e. Business & Administration
 - f. Government & Public Administration
 - g. Health Care
 - h. Everyday Life.
9. How have computers revolutionized the way man lives today?
10. Computers are a necessary tool. Do you agree? Explain.
11. Describe the term **evolution** of computers.
12. How do the second generation computers differ from fifth generation computers? List down **four** differences.

Components, Classifications/Categories, Functions and Characteristics of Computers

13. Distinguish between a computer and a computer system.
14. Outline any **three** elements of a computer system and explain the function of each.
15. What are the differences between a digital computer and an analogue computer?
16. Briefly explain the functions of PCs.
17. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using a computer? Give at least **four** merits and **four** demerits.
18. How are computers used in: Homes, Education, Industry, Retailing, Business & Administration, Government & Public Administration, health Care, and Agriculture?
19. Explain any **four** characteristics of a modern PC.
20. Write short notes on:
 - a. Supercomputer
 - b. Mainframe
 - c. Minicomputer
 - d. Personal Computer
 - e. Notebook computer
 - f. PDA
21. What the possible characteristics of the future generation of computers?

Computer Hardware

22. Distinguish between a computer and a computer system.
23. List any **four** components of the system unit
24. Convert the following octal numbers to their binary equivalents
 - a. 244_8
 - b. 247_8
 - c. 162_8
 - d. 565_8
25. Differentiate between:
 - a. A parallel port and a Serial Port
 - b. A Port and a Connector.
 - c. CMOS and Access Time
 - d. PC Card and Flash Memory Card
 - e. A motherboard and a Chip
 - f. Parallel Processing and Pipelining
 - g. Bit and Byte
26. Describe the following terms as used in computers:
 - a. A bay
 - b. Power supply
 - c. Bus
 - d. Adapter/Expansion card
 - e. Expansion slot
 - f. Heat sink
 - g. Memory Cache
27. Distinguish between an input device and an output device. Give any **five** examples of each.
28. Outline the **three** types of RAM chips.
29. What is **ROM**? Name the **three** types of ROM.
30. Distinguish between **RAM** and **ROM**.
31. What is a processor? Name **three** components of the CPU and state what each of them does.
32. What is a machine cycle?
33. List the **four** operations of the CPU.
34. Name **three** major parts of the CPU. Explain the function of each part.
35. Distinguish between **primary storage** and secondary **storage devices**, giving an example in each
36. Write the following in full:
 - a. USB
 - b. ASCII
 - c. EBCDIC
37. What are the **three** popular coding systems of representing data?
38. What are the advantages of using CDs over diskettes?
39. Explain what is meant by **volatile** and **non volatile** when referring to primary memory.
40. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using primary and secondary storage devices.
41. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using:
 - a. impact and
 - b. non impact printers.

Computer Software

42. Distinguish between a computer and a computer system.
43. What is an operating system? Give any **three** examples of operating systems.
44. Outline any **four** functions of operating systems. State any **four** categories of operating systems.
45. State **four** differences between DOS [or a Command Line Interface] and Windows [or Graphical User Interface, GUI]; giving examples for each.
46. Explain the types of application software available in the market today.
47. Write OOP in full. What's a programming language? Outline any **five** examples of programming languages.
48. Give examples of information, file management and directory commands you know.
49. Differentiate between customized and off shelf software. Give examples of each.
50. What is your understanding of an anti-virus? Give any **two** examples of anti-virus programs.
51. What is a computer virus? Give any **three** examples of computer viruses.
52. Under what circumstances are computer viruses spread?
53. Suggest measures to minimise the spread of computer viruses.
54. Briefly explain how you can create a folder at the Windows Desktop.
55. How would you format a diskette in the Windows Interface?
56. What is a file name? Which characters cannot be accepted in file naming?
57. Write keyboard shortcut keys for the following:
 - a. Bold
 - b. Italic
 - c. Underline
 - d. Spell Checker
 - e. Close window
 - f. Exit Application
 - g. Copy
 - h. Paste
 - i. Print
 - j. Select All
 - k. ™
 - l. ©
 - m. ®
 - n. Switch between open programs
 - o. Delete item permanently

Introduction to Word Processing

58. Distinguish between a **Word Processor** and **Word Processing**. Outline **three** examples of Word Processing programs.
59. State **three** Word Processing features you know.
60. Name **three** types of paragraph/text formatting.
61. Distinguish between a **footer** and **header**.
62. What is **mail merging**? Differentiate between **main** document and **data** source.
63. What are the advantages of using a word processor over a typewriter?
64. What is the difference between a superscript and subscript?

Introduction to Spreadsheets

65. Define the following as used in Spreadsheets, for example MS Excel:
 - a. Cell
 - b. Worksheet
 - c. Workbook
 - d. Array Entered Formula
 - e. Mixed Formula
 - f. Relative Formula
 - g. Absolute Formula

66. Differentiate between a **relative cell address** and **absolute cell address**. Give **two** examples of each.
67. Distinguish between:
 - a. Operator and Operand
 - b. Formula and Function
 - c. Average and Sum
 - d. Cell Range and Range
 - e. AutoFill Handle and Formula Bar
68. What is the role of **F2** in MS Excel?
69. Differentiate between adjacent cells and non adjacent cells. Give **four** examples of each.
70. What else can you put in spreadsheet cells besides text and numbers?
71. Name **three** different operations which you would expect in a spreadsheet cell.
72. List **three** different types of number formats you would expect in a spreadsheet cell.
73. What is a spreadsheet? Give **three** examples of spreadsheet applications.
74. Explain any **five** advantages of using a spreadsheets program like Lotus 1-2-3 or MS Excel.

Introduction to Databases

75. Differentiate between a **Database** and **Database Management System**.
76. Give any **three** examples of database programs
77. Give **three** advantages of electronic databases over manual or paper-based databases.
78. List **five** examples of data types that can be in a record. Outline the function of each of the data types you have listed.
79. What is the importance of a primary key?
80. Define the following terms:
 - a. Query
 - b. Table
 - c. Table
 - d. Record
 - e. Field
 - f. Module
 - g. Report
 - h. Normalization
 - i. Redundancy
81. The database below contains data about items that have been ordered from various suppliers.

SUPPLIER	CODE	DELIVERY DATE	PRICE (\$)
AD12	2146	28/09/07	44.99
CO32	3724	30/09/07	249.50
MO18	5613	05/10/07	98.5
LO47	5613	11/10/07	102.75
PO29	7215	17/10/07	127.50
RO16	4639	19/10/07	22.89

- a. State the data types of the fields in the given table
- b. The following search condition is input: (CODE=56) AND (PRICE (\$) < 100). Write down the output using only the SUPPLIER field.
- c. Write down a search condition that will search for all items with a price more than \$50 that will be delivered in October.

- d. Write down the output using only the SUPPLIER field if the records were sorted in descending order.

Introduction to Computer Networks

82. What is meant by the following:
- Email
 - Surfing
 - Bandwidth
 - Network Protocol
 - Local Search Engine
 - Computer Network
 - Attachment
 - Extranet
 - Intranet
 - Server
83. What is a **search engine**? Give **three** examples of search engines.
84. What are the merits and demerits of using email as a means of communication?
85. Outline **four** parts of an email message.
86. What are the advantages and limitations of installing a school network?
87. Explain briefly how Internet can be used as a learning tool.
88. What is **Internet**? Mention **four** advantages and **four** disadvantages of the Internet.
89. State and explain **six** Internet services that you know.
90. State **four** factors that affect the speed of the Internet
91. Explain **four** dangers of the presence of the Internet in schools.
92. Explain any **three** examples of computer networks.
93. What is a **client** in computer networking? Give **three** types of servers.
94. List **three** network topologies you know.
95. Give **three** examples of network media.
96. Outline any **four** examples of network protocols.
97. What are the advantages and disadvantages of online learning / e-learning?
98. Write the following in full:
- ISP
 - HTTP
 - POP
 - TCP/IP
 - IMAP
 - FTP
 - SLIP
 - HTML
 - WAP
 - IP
 - URL
99. Which factors should be considered when choosing an ISP?
100. Define the following:
- Network Administrator
 - Packet
 - IP Address
 - Octet
 - Network Adapter/Network Card/NIC
 - Repeater

- g. Gateway
- h. Firewall
- i. Router
- j. Switch

Introduction to Presentation

- 101. Define the following terms:
 - a. Transition
 - b. Slide
 - c. Presentation
 - d. Slide Show
 - e. Slider Master
 - f. Animation
- 102. Give **two** examples of presentation software.

Introduction to Web Publishing

- 103. Define the following terms:
 - a. Website
 - b. Webpage
 - c. Domain Name
 - d. World Wide Web
 - e. Home Page
 - f. Hyperlink
 - g. Tag
 - h. Upload
 - i. Download
- 104. What is the role of the following:
 - a. Web Authoring software
 - b. Webmaster
 - c. Web Server
 - d. Web Browser
 - e. Web Mail Provider
- 105. Give **two** examples of:
 - a. Web Browsers
 - b. Free Web Mail providers
 - c. Websites
 - d. Web Authoring programs
 - e. Domain name endings.
- 106. State **five** basics of web design.
- 107. Why do think a school should have a website? What are the likely limitations of having a website?
- 108. What are the advantages and disadvantages of web publishing?

Wishing you success in your forthcoming National Exam

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