

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

National University of Ireland, Galway

Summer Examinations 1999/00

FIRST YEAR COMMERCE EXAMINATION

FIRST CORPORATE LAW EXAMINATION

Management Information Systems – MS102

Professor R. O'Callaghan

Professor S. Collins

Dr. M. Fahy

Dr. W. Golden

Ms. M. Hogan

Time allowed: TWO hours

Candidates are required to answer ONE question in SECTION A and TWO questions from SECTION B

All questions carry EQUAL marks

Separate answer books are NOT required for each section

SECTION A

QUESTION 1.

ANSWER EITHER a OR b OR c

Question 1 (a):

It is possible, using telecommunications, to transmit information via wired media and wireless methods. Describe, in detail, the different wired media and wireless methods used to transmit information. You should also consider the advantages and disadvantages of each method.

(33 marks)

OR

Question 1 (b):

A manager of a small firm has decided to buy a computer but is unclear about the functions and purpose of the different software that comes bundled with the PC that she has chosen. In order to help her understand she has asked you to prepare a report which explains

- Systems software,
- Applications software and
- Programming languages.

You are required to prepare the report. In your answer you should give examples of the different types of software.

(33 marks)

OR

Question 1 (c):

"The range of different types of Management Information Systems that have emerged in the past twenty years in the field of MIS reflect not just the changing nature and capability of Information Technology but also the different information processing and decision making requirements of managers in different parts and at different levels in the organisation".

Discuss the above statement and in particular the types of information systems which are available to support managers in different functions areas and at different levels within the organisation.

(33 marks)

SECTION B

Question 2:

Describe, in detail, the following types of database models:

Hierarchical Data Model

Network Data Model

Relational Data Model

You should also consider the advantages and disadvantages of each of the three models.

(33 marks)

Question 3:

When building a new information system, it is important that a number of activities are carried out in order to ensure a quality system. Describe, in detail, the steps involved in systems development

(33 marks)

Question 4:

The owner of a hostel is concerned that his business is missing out on the potential of electronic commerce. Her problem is that she currently knows nothing about the Internet and electronic commerce. She has asked you to prepare a report that would explain the Internet and electronic commerce to her and point out the potential of such technology for her business.

You are required to prepare the report. In your answer you should cite appropriate case studies that support your arguments.

(33 marks)

Question 5:

Computer hardware is continually getting better. Such improvements provide businesses with new and changing opportunities to use computer hardware as part of their information systems.

Discuss this statement. In your answer you should outline the history of computing hardware in business, and discuss what potential you believe that new hardware systems currently being designed have for business.

(33 marks)