

**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
SPECIFICATION B (1995)**

**2380/1&2
/PRE**

Unit 4: Externally Set Test (Paper 2)

Pre-release Material – Notes for Guidance

For use in preparation for Examination Sessions January and June 2008



This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Notes for Guidance

Teachers

Candidates are allowed to take their own notes into the examination room. You may support and guide them but the research they take into the examination room must be their own work.

The notes they take into the examination room must **not** contain comments or marking by the teacher.

- Unit 4 is an examination paper in two tiers that will assess sections **5.3**, **5.4** and **5.5** of the specification.
- Candidates must also be fully conversant with the knowledge outlined in Unit 1: Core knowledge underpinning the use of ICT.
- It is unlikely that candidates who have not carried out the practical work associated with Unit 2 and Unit 3 will have gained sufficient insight into the application of ICT systems to successfully attempt this assessment.
- Candidates may be given the pre-release material at any point, but it must be given to them **at least four weeks** before the test.
- Candidates can be given support and advice in the interpretation of the materials and the use of ICT in the context identified.
- Candidates do not have to be directly supervised while they are researching or producing work in response to the pre-release materials.
- Flow chart stencils should be available to candidates for use during the examination.
- Teachers should check that materials taken into the examination are appropriate and comply with the 'Regulations for the Conduct of Examinations'.

NOTE: Where test questions relate to the pre-release research activities, candidates will only be awarded marks when they answer the question asked.

Materials taken into the examination must not be attached to or submitted with the answer booklet.

Candidates

You may take your **own** notes into the examination room. This will normally consist of four A4 sheets. Remember you should not just quote from your notes. Your notes are there to help and guide you. Marks will be awarded for correctly answering the questions set.

The research sheet is provided to help you to structure your notes. The examination papers do not have specific questions on all the content outlined in the research sheet, however following the research sheet will help you to revise the correct areas covered by the examination papers.

- You may take a flow chart stencil into the examination room.
- Textbooks are **not** allowed in the examination room.

Pre-release 2008

Exotic Holidays is a virtual travel company, specialising in group travel. It offers hundreds of different holidays. The company has no head office.

Exotic Holidays can be contacted via email at: enquiries@exotic-holidays1.com. They also have a website at www.exotic-holidays1.com

The communications director is Jenny Smith.

Aware of global concerns about the environment Exotic Holidays does all it can to be environmentally friendly:

- all the staff work from home using computers and the Internet
- steps are taken to ensure holidays booked are as environmentally friendly as possible.

Exotic Holidays aims to offer exceptional value and a prompt, efficient service on a wide range of exciting guided environmental, art, history, activity and cultural tours. The Company employs local people at all of its holiday destinations and promotes sustainable local development.

When a customer contacts Exotic Holidays, by email or the web, the communication automatically integrates with the company database. All of the data entered by the customer is automatically entered into the company database.

Some of the web pages allow the user to choose items e.g. destination, from a drop-down box and then the page is automatically updated to match. Other pages are static. Communication with the company can be done either by email or their on-line discussion forum and chat rooms.

You need to explore:

- the use of synchronous and asynchronous Internet communication including chats, blogs, discussion forums, instant messaging and email
- data collection methods including open and closed questioning
- the design and use of web registration forms including validation and data processing
- the use of system flow diagrams
- health and safety issues when using computers
- the Data Protection Act
- the evaluation of websites including validity and usability
- data backups including network servers
- currency differences and the use of ICT to model and compare costs in different currencies
- web hosting
- translation websites / software
- securing data that can be accessed over the Internet.

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