

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION - JULY 2008

COURSE TITLE : INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS COMPUTING
COURSE CODE : BA 112 – FULLTIME and IDE
CLASS : DIPLOMA IN COMMERCE
TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF SECTION (A) AND (B)
2. SECTION (A) IS COMPULSORY
3. ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B
4. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER IS FOUR (4)

**NOTE; MARKS WILL BE AWARDED FOR GOOD COMMUNICATION
IN ENGLISH AND FOR ORDERLY PRESENTATION**

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL INVIGILATOR
HAS GRANTED PERMISSION

SECTION A

Ginuwine Sounds Inc. (GSI) is a large warehouse that sells and distributes musical products. Such products include CD's, musical DVD's, musical instruments, etc. GSI is in the process of automating (computerising) its purchasing department.

The current manual system requires GSI buyers to monitor inventory and order information by using unit control books. Inventory of current orders and goods is taken monthly at the receiving and marking centre. At the centre the buyer's files are compared to the receiving centre's files to ensure that what has been recorded by the buyer corresponds to what is entered by the receiving centre clerk.

The same process is used when buyers have to confirm the inventory levels. They have to check against what they initially recorded as incoming stock less the items they have sold.

1. Help computerise GSI's operations. Suggest the type of computer hardware they need to put in place (and give reasons why), under the following headings.
 - a. Input devices
 - b. Processing type
 - c. Memory(20 marks)
2. Based on your understanding of a computerised process, what will be the benefits of the new system to GSI (explain only 3). (10 marks)
3. Based on the case and functionality needs, what application software would be best for GSI and why? Mention one software package (by brand/ name) that can be used. (10 marks)

SECTION B

1. Max and Sif have been working for a bank for the last 10 years. They are now interested in forming a partnership and starting an investment bank. They intend hiring 5 other people to join them as staff and help establish their investment bank, MaxSif. They will need someone who will track the financial markets, another to conduct specialized research, and a third to maintain customer relations. The other two will be support staff.

Explain, under 4 headings, what role you think a computerized information system can play in their organization. Be specific to this case, using examples where appropriate. (30 marks)

2.
Compare and contrast computing programming languages. For the first 3 languages, give an example of a statement that would be written using each language. (30 marks)
3.
Suppose your fellow student studying law at UNISWA, has asked you to help him establish a printing shop at UNISWA Gate Shopping complex. Use the systems approach to problem solving and help him establish his operations. For each step, suggest possible scenarios relating to his plan, so that he understands what exactly you are doing. (30 marks)