



Higher
coursework
assessment task



Higher Computing Science Assignment Finalised Marking Instructions

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by Qualifications Scotland appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

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Marking instructions

General marking principles

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the specific marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- a Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- b If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed/specific marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- c Award marks regardless of spelling, as long as the meaning is unambiguous and does not result in a syntax error in implemented code.
- d For design and implementation tasks, a sample response may be shown in the detailed marking instructions. This will not be the only valid response. You must use the detailed marking instructions and additional guidance to ensure that you consider alternative approaches and nuances of different programming languages. If in doubt you should refer to your team leader.
- e If a candidate puts a score through their entire response to a question and makes a further attempt, you should only mark the further attempt. If no further attempt is made and the original is legible, you should mark the original response.
- f In the marking instructions, if a word is underlined then it is essential; if a word is in brackets() then it is not essential. Words separated by/are alternatives.

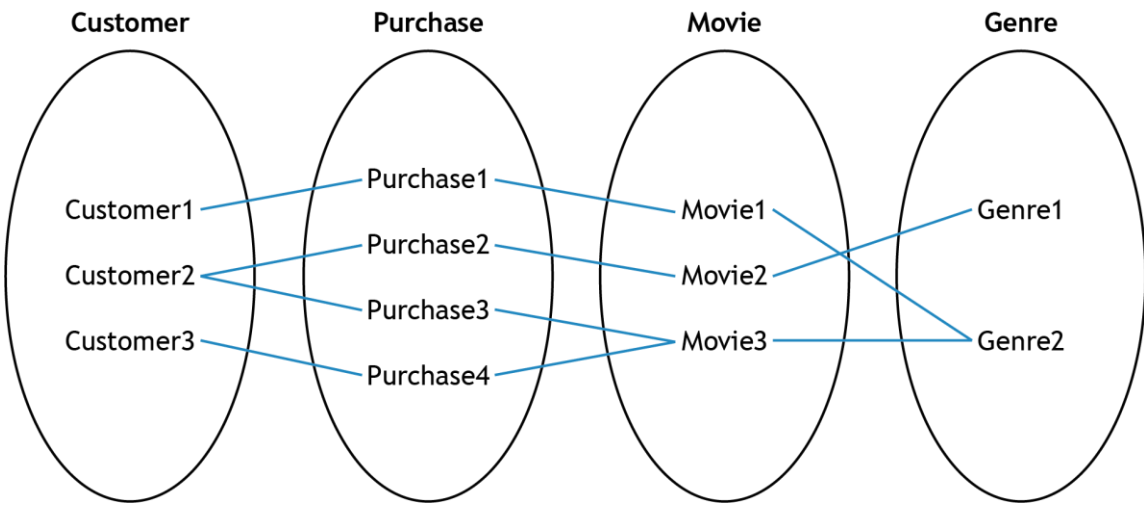
Task 1 – software design and development

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
1a	Input ♦ read tool, manufacturer, dateRented, returned, fee from file Process ♦ search for tools in 2025 that have not been returned ♦ search for (tools from) chosen manufacturer ♦ count of tools by chosen manufacturer	3	Award 1 mark for input. Award 1 mark each for any two processes. For process bullet one - 2025 required as file also has 2026 data.
1b	♦ 1 mark for: ○ loop for each tool (120) ○ condition for tool not being returned and ○ use of year and month to correctly set fee ♦ identification of month and year from date ♦ fee array returned outside loop	3	Award bullet two if candidate uses entire date.

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
1c	Read in Tool data (2 marks) ♦ module with parameters passed or returned ♦ assigned to 5 parallel arrays Manufacturer search (4 marks) ♦ module with correct parameters passed in (tool, manufacturer), nothing returned ♦ input of manufacturer and display of count and tool name(s) ♦ count initialised and incremented ♦ search for selected manufacturer (loop with if) Calculate late fee (4 marks) ♦ function with correct parameters passed in (dateRented, returned, fee), fee returned ♦ loop with condition ○ loop for each tool (120) ○ condition for returned = no ♦ correct use of sub-string (year and month) within condition ♦ assignment of fee Write file (4 marks) ♦ module with correct parameters passed in (tool, dateRented, fee), nothing returned ♦ create and open file ♦ check for late fee ♦ write correct data to file (tool, dateRented, fee) Modular and maintainable (1 mark) ♦ Modular and maintainable	15	Modular - four subprograms matching top level design. Maintainable must include - internal commentary, white space, meaningful variable/module names.

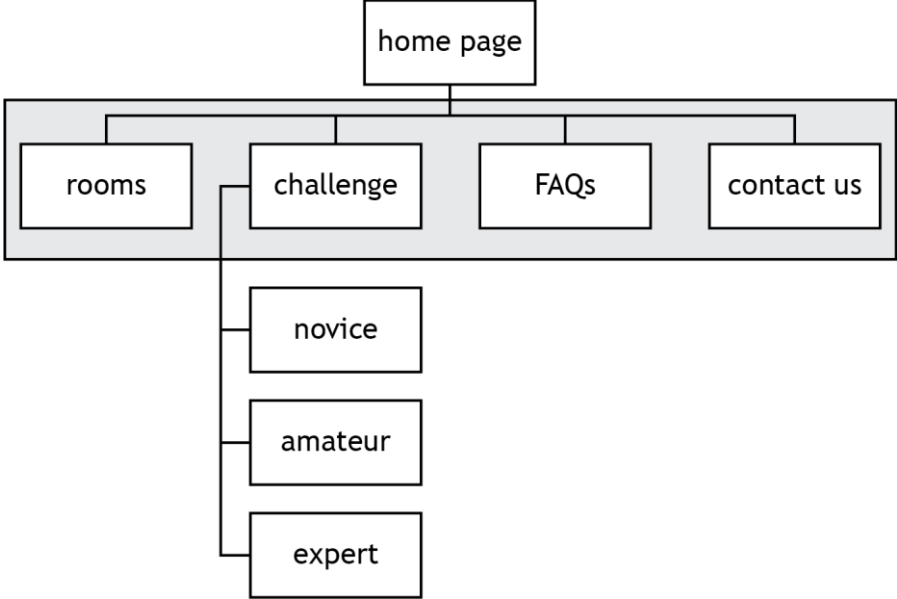
Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance		
1di	See solution below.	2	Award 1 mark for column two. Award 1 mark for column three.		
	index			If tool rented in 2025 or 2026 and not returned?	Current fee
	Tool1			False	0
	Tool2			True	25
	Tool3			True	30
	Tool4			True	25
1dii	♦ (starting value set to £20 so) late fees for 2026 always have £20 added to them	1			
1e	♦ (is not usable) as not displaying that the manufacturer is not found OR ♦ (is usable) as displaying that the manufacturer is not found	1	Award mark if candidate describes solution to increase usability. Answer must be consistent with candidate's code.		

Task 2 – database design and development

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
2a	A query to: ♦ find a genre with the word “suspense” in the description ♦ count the number of purchases ♦ calculate the average rating of each movie ♦ find the highest rated movie by a specific director ♦ search for premium accounts and calculate the total money spent on purchases ♦ find the shortest duration	2	Award 1 mark for each bullet. Maximum 2 marks.
2b	♦ adding the correct number of instances ♦ adding the correct associations	2	 The diagram illustrates the relationships between four database entities: Customer, Purchase, Movie, and Genre. Each entity is represented by an oval. Customer contains three instances: Customer1, Customer2, and Customer3. Purchase contains four instances: Purchase1, Purchase2, Purchase3, and Purchase4. Movie contains three instances: Movie1, Movie2, and Movie3. Genre contains two instances: Genre1 and Genre2. Blue lines represent the associations: Customer1 is linked to Purchase1; Customer2 is linked to Purchase2 and Purchase3; Customer3 is linked to Purchase4. Purchase1 is linked to Movie1; Purchase2 is linked to Movie2; Purchase3 is linked to Movie3; and Purchase4 is linked to Movie3. Movie1 is linked to Genre1; Movie2 is linked to Genre1; and Movie3 is linked to Genre2.

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
2c	♦ query to find the shortest duration ♦ fields, tables and equi-joins including query name ♦ search criteria (duration =) compared to first query alias/ sub query Query2ci SELECT MIN(duration) AS [Shortest Duration] FROM Movie; Query2cii SELECT forename, surname FROM Customer, Purchase, Movie, Query2ci WHERE Customer.customerID = Purchase.customerID AND Purchase.movieCode = Movie.movieCode AND duration = [Shortest Duration]; Subquery SELECT forename, surname FROM Customer, Purchase, Movie WHERE Customer.customerID = Purchase.customerID AND Purchase.movieCode = Movie.movieCode AND duration = (SELECT MIN(duration) FROM Movie);	3	For bullet two query name only needed in FROM clause if sub query has not been used. Disregard any ORDER BY clause.
2d	♦ fields, tables and ALIAS ♦ use of SUM function ♦ equi joins and search criteria ♦ GROUP BY all non-aggregate fields or unique identifier ♦ ORDER BY SUM(price) DESC SELECT forename, surname, SUM(price) AS [Total spent (£)] FROM Customer, Purchase, Movie, Genre WHERE Customer.customerID = Purchase.customerID AND Purchase.movieCode = Movie.movieCode AND Movie.genreID = Genre.genreID AND genreName = "Comedy" GROUP BY forename, surname ORDER BY SUM(price) DESC;	5	Don't penalise if sorted by an incorrect aggregate function. SQLite does allow ORDER By "Alias" or [Alias] but not 'Alias'.
2e	♦ correct range of release years ♦ grouping added using all non-aggregate fields or unique identifier SELECT forename, surname, email FROM Customer, Purchase, Movie WHERE Customer.customerID = Purchase.customerID AND Purchase.movieCode = Movie.movieCode AND released like "199?" GROUP BY forename, surname, email;	2	Range could be implemented as a range >=1990 and <=1999 or as a wildcard released like "199?" / "199_" / 199* / 199%
2f	There is no director field.	1	Must reference field/attribute.

Task 3 – web design and development

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
3a	♦ home with link to Rooms, Challenge, FAQs and Contact us on level 1 ♦ novice, Amateur and Expert on level 2 of Challenge page ♦ indication of navigation bar  <pre> graph TD HP[home page] --- NB[] subgraph NB [] R[rooms] C[challenge] F[FAQs] CU[contact us] end C --- S[] subgraph S [] N[novice] A[amateur] E[expert] end </pre>	3	
3b	♦ function(s)/in line JavaScript to show/hide image ♦ each overlay image hidden using onMouseOver event ♦ each overlay image shown using onMouseOut event	3	
	<pre> function showJungleOverlay(){ document.getElementById ("jungleOverlay").style.display = "block"; } function hideJungleOverlay(){ document.getElementById ("jungleOverlay").style.display = "none";} <section class="roomInfo" onmouseout="showJungleOverlay()"> </pre>		

Task	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
3c	◆ float left and width 280px ◆ 15px margin as per design	2	Accept any solution that creates three columns side by side. Accept any solution that creates a 15px margin between the three sections. Possible solution <pre>.challengeLevel { float: left; width: 280px; margin-left: 15px; background-color: #d4b483; }</pre>
3di	◆ number of people ○ min="1" ○ max="5" ◆ select for rooms ○ Multiple ◆ radio buttons challenge ◆ correct positions and required applied to the three fields (number of people, rooms and challenge)	4	Validation for each added form element is necessary to achieve the mark. Radio button could have one option set to checked to ensure required.
3dii	Select (dropdown menu) checked for: ◆ single selection ◆ multiple selection ◆ left blank	1	
3e	◆ the expert link on the 'Challenge' page does not link to its respective page ◆ the 'Amateur' page does not contain customer quotes ◆ footer is not consistent across all pages ('Contact us' page footer is missing)	2	Award 1 mark for each bullet. Maximum 2 marks. Accept answers that relate to the candidate's own code.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]