

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**  
**BACHELOR OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES (LEVEL 4)**  
**ASSIGNMENT TEST: AUGUST 2007**  
**COMPUTERS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN BUSINESS**  
**MCU 2209**  
**DURATION: TWO (02) HOURS**



*This paper contains FOUR questions and has TWO PAGES.*

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2007

Time: 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

**Answer any THREE (03) questions. All questions carry equal marks.**

- *State your student registration number in each answer script.*
- *Always start questions in a new page.*
- *Use legible handwriting.*
- *If more than three questions are answered, only the first three answered will be evaluated.*



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- (1)
    - (i) Explain “computer software”.
    - (ii) What is the role of computer software in functioning of computer systems? Explain.
    - (iii) Explain ‘system software’ and ‘application software’ bringing out their differences. Give suitable examples.
    - (iv) Explain different sources of obtaining computer software for organizations. What are the costs associated with different sources of obtaining software?
    - (v) “Many organizations use more than one source of obtaining software.” Do you agree? Explain.
  
  - (2)
    - (i) “A computer system should contain at least one output device.” Do you agree? Explain.
    - (ii) What are the differences in application of computer monitor and computer printer as an output device?
    - (iii) What are the different types (in terms of printing technology) of computer printers that are commonly used today? With examples explain three different types of computer printers with their technology, specific advantages and costs associated.

- (3) (i) What is meant by an input device of a computer system? For computer systems what is the need for these devices?
- (ii) With the specific uses explain different input devices used with modern computer systems.
- (iii) "Computer modems can function as an input device as well as an output device."  
Introduce computer modems, and comment on the above statement.
- (4) (i) Distinguish between
- a) primary memory and secondary memory, and
- b) random access memory and read only memory
- (ii) Explain different types of secondary storage devices used with personal computer systems today. What is the basic technology used in those devices? What are the common problems one would have to face when using these devices in Sri Lankan environment?
- (iii) Explain the need for secondary storage devices while primary memory is available with the computers.
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