



# **Practice Exams: Unit 1**

*for CCEA GCSE Digital Technology*

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# Teacher's Introduction

This resource has been produced to help your students prepare for the examination of GCSE CCEA Digital Technology Unit 1 (for examination 2018 onwards). It includes five original practice question papers with supporting mark schemes.

The question papers and mark schemes are designed to be in a similar style to the CCEA specimen assessment materials, to provide realistic exam practice. The papers can be used as a 'mock' examination; alternatively, individual questions can be set for recap/revision purposes.

The mark schemes include clear, bullet point answers and marking guidance.

*Please note that the mark schemes are indicative and for guidance only; for some questions there may be alternative answers than those given and in such cases, appropriate credit should be given.*

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Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment materials.

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# CCEA GCSE Digital Technology

## Unit 1: Digital Technology (Compulsory Core)

Practice Paper 1



**Time:** 1 hour

### Instructions:

- Write your answers in the spaces provided in this question paper.
- Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

### Information:

- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
- Quality of written communication is assessed in questions 7 & 8(a)



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In Question 1, insert the appropriate letter in the space provided.

1. a) Explain what is meant by a pixel.
- A It is the largest element in a display which can be divided into various smaller elements.
  - B It is a single dot that cannot be used to make up a graphic.
  - C It is the smallest element of a display which can be joined to form a larger element.
  - D A storage unit.
- b) What does the acronym ROM stand for?
- A Random only memory
  - B Read-only memory
  - C Random ordinary memory
  - D Read-only micro
- c) Which statement describes a LAN?
- A A network which uses public telephone links.
  - B A network in which the computers are all connected from a wide geographical area.
  - C A network covering a highly populated area.
  - D A network in which the computer systems are all connected relatively close together.
- d) Select the list which contains only image file formats.
- A JPEG, GIF, TXT, BMP
  - B PICT, GIF, AVI, BMP
  - C WMA, GIF, TXT, BMP
  - D PICT, GIF, JPEG, BMP
- e) What is the purpose of a key field in a database?
- A Uniquely identifies a field.
  - B Uniquely identifies a table.
  - C Uniquely identifies a record.
  - D Uniquely identifies a key field.
- f) Mary needs to add a new customer to the database she is creating. What should she use to do this?
- A Insert a new field.
  - B Insert a new column.
  - C Insert a new record.
  - D Append a new row.
- g) What does the acronym RSI stand for?
- A Repetitive strain injury
  - B Repeating stress injury
  - C Repeating strain injury
  - D Repetitive stress injury

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- h) Select the statement which is true about FTP.
- A It is a protocol for transferring files across the Internet.
  - B It stands for File Transmission Protocol.
  - C Using FTP always requires a username and password.
  - D It is a computer program used for transferring files.
- i) Select the statement which best explains data portability.
- A The ability for data to be used in different computer software.
  - B The ability for hardware to use different computer software.
  - C The ability for data to be used on different computer hardware.
  - D The ability for hardware to be shared.
- j) What does the acronym NIC stand for?
- A Network interval card
  - B Neural interface card
  - C Network interface card
  - D Neural interval card

2. Using the table below, explain what the following spreadsheet functions will

Function	Explanation
SUM(A8:A10)	
MIN(A8:A10)	
MAX(A8:A10)	
VLOOKUP('Fred',A2:B8,2)	
IF(A3<B6,true,false)	

3. Josh wants to book a holiday flight. He logs on to the airline website in order to state and justify which type of website processing occurs when Josh **actually**

Type of processing (Batch/Real-time)	Justification

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4. The central processing unit (CPU) in a computer system contains many components.


a) What is a register?

.....

b) One such register is the IAR. What does the acronym IAR stand for?

.....

5. a) Using the given characteristics for the following input and output devices

Characteristic(s)	Name of device	One advantage
Touch the screen with a stylus or finger to input data 		
Capable of high resolution output using toner		
Can be used to produce plastic models. Takes data from a computer-generated model and translates that into a real, solid		
Records audio		

b) Insert the following terms into the paragraph below. (Only use each term once)

*digital to analogue converter      digital      analogue*

When sound is recorded using a microphone it is \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ form before it can be stored or processed by a  
 \_\_\_\_\_ is needed. When the converted data  
 needs to be converted back using a \_\_\_\_\_.

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6. a) What is the difference between data and information?

.....

.....

.....

.....

- b) Databases have data stored as different types. For each of the following should be stored as.

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Text/string</i>	<i>Character</i>	<i>Boolean</i>
<b>Example</b>			
A field that stores whether a customer has paid or not paid their bill.			
A field in which an adult is stored as an A and a child is stored as a C.			
A field that stores a customer's surname.			
A field that stores the customer's age in years.			
A field that stores the price of the various goods in a store.			
A field that stores a customer's appointment time.			

7. WPC engineering is expanding the computing side of its business administration and is recommended to use the cloud as storage. (QWC).

Discuss this recommendation.

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8. Mobile phones are now quite popular in **education and training**.

a) Discuss the disadvantages of using mobile phones in this way. (QWC)

.....

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.....



b) State **one** way in which allowing students to use mobile phones for learning is different from the pattern of the trainer.

.....

.....

9. a) David is considering networking his eight work computers to a file server. He has been told he needs both a switch and a router to have Internet access. He has been told he needs both a switch and a router.

i) Why does David need a router?

.....

.....

ii) Why does David need a switch?

.....

.....

b) What is the difference between the World Wide Web and the Internet?

.....

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- c) Transmitting information on the Internet can create security issues. One way to protect the data is to encrypt the data.

- i) Explain how encryption works.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

- ii) Encryption can be vulnerable to a brute force attack. What is a brute force attack?



- d) There are some basic precautions everyone using the Internet should take to protect themselves from a variety of cybercrimes. Give **three** examples of cybercrime.

1. ....

2. ....

3. ....

- e) Give **three** examples of precautions you can take to protect yourself against cybercrime.

1. ....

2. ....

3. ....

10. Suggest **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of using **gaming applications**.

Advantages

1. ....

.....

2. ....

.....

Disadvantages

1. ....

.....

2. ....

.....

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11. a) The Consumer Contracts Regulations came into force in 2013. State how the following scenarios.

- i) Mary bought some shoes over the Internet but three weeks later she went to a shop at a much cheaper price. As the shoes had not yet been delivered, she cancelled the contract. She was told she could not.

.....

.....

- ii) George was using the Internet to look for some football boots. He added them to his shopping basket but then changed his mind and did not proceed to buy them. A few days later that the money for the football boots had been taken from his card.

.....

.....

- iii) Sam decided to purchase and download a digital music file. After listening to it, he decided to cancel his download and requested his money back. He was told that he could not.

.....

.....

- iv) Josie bought a sewing machine on the Internet. When she looked at the box, she had also been charged for the warranty of the sewing machine even though it was not in the box. She complained to the company.

.....

.....

b) According to the Data Protection Act, which of the following statements are correct? Tick the data subject?

Statement
A data subject has the right to be supplied with the personal data held about him or her if they go through the data controller
A data subject can force a data controller to correct any incorrect data held about them.
A data subject cannot prevent a company from using their information even though it might cause them stress.

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12. Insert a term from the list that matches the most appropriate definition in the table below. (Each term should only be used once.)

TEMPLATE	MALWARE	SPYWARE	HACKING
Definition			
Malicious software that can be downloaded onto a computer system, such as a virus and a worm.			
Malicious software that records a computer user's actions without them knowing.			
A layout which may have some elements automatically inserted each time it is used.			
Storage which resides between the main store and the central processor to reduce processing time.			
A person who tries to gain unauthorised access to a computer system.			

**END OF PAPER**

**TOTAL MARKS: 90**

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## **Preview of Questions Ends Here**

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This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid students previewing questions before they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.

## Practice Paper 2

1. a) C - Contains the address of the next instruction to be executed.  
 b) A - RAM is volatile and can be edited.  
 c) A - Each computer has a wireless interface that connects to a wireless access point.  
 d) C - MP3, WAV, WMA, AAC  
 e) B - A video file extension associated with Windows Media Player.  
 f) C - Structured Query Language  
 g) D - Use a screen filter.  
 h) A - Makes sure data within the organisation is collected and used fairly.

2. a) 10 bytes

- b) Any 1 \* 1 mark

The reduction in available system memory depends on the configuration

- The devices that are installed on the computer, and the memory that they use
- The ability of the motherboard to handle memory
- The System BIOS settings and settings
- The version of Windows 7 that is installed (for example, Windows 7 Home Premium 64-bit requires more memory)
- The system setting

- c) Any 3 reasonable suggestions \* 1 mark each

- How fast it can transfer data from one place to another
- Machine portability
- The price per unit of the storage
- How robust the storage is, e.g. whether it will deteriorate over time

- d) i) Optical storage  
 ii) Magnetic storage  
 iii) Solid-state storage

- e)

Example	Blu-ray disk	CD/DVD
A one-hour high-definition video	✓	
Saving and downloading files on a computer system		
A student's coursework		

3. a) i) Vector-based

- ii) Any 2 \* 1 mark each

- The lines would be stored rather than the whole shape as pixels
- The shape would be created from instructions
- Less storage is needed
- Scaling the picture does not alter the resolution

- b) Lossy compression may involve a reduction in resolution (1) and possibly colour depth (1).  
 Lossless compression can be reversed back to the original (1) with no effect on quality (1).

4. a) Full backup – everything is backed up (1)

Incremental backup – only backs up data that has changed since the last backup (1)

- b) Any 1 \* 1 mark each

- Can set a program to open/run, etc. at any time you want
- Can add multiple tasks to be done
- Can set time in as much detail as you want
- Can set up alert messages

- c) If the file has been split up when saved, defragmentation moves these fragments together and thus speeds up the loading process (1)

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5. a) Extremely large data sets (or an appropriate example)
- b) i) Refers to the amount of data  
 ii) Types of data – pictures, audio, etc.  
 iii) How fast the data is coming in and can be handled
- c) i) Big Data Analytics Application software  
 ii) Any 2 \* 2 marks (max.) each, e.g.
- Cyberbullying (1) – use of computers to harass/threaten another
  - Identify fraud (1) – obtaining and using someone else's identify
  - Phishing (1) – attempting to obtain a person's sensitive information person or organisation (1)
  - Location tracking (1) – a person's location can be shared – both knowingly – when posting online (1)

6.

Example	Data type				
	Boolean	Time	Numeric	Text	Form
Yes/No	✓				
2000.4			✓		
= 3:30					✓
TRUE/FALSE	✓				
23/11/2019		✓			
Fred Jones				✓	
-23			✓		
BT99QE				✓	
Male/Female	✓				

7. a) Using smart technology (1) to send, receive and process information (1)
- b) Any 1 \* 1 mark each
- https means the data is encrypted when transmitted so is more private
  - https provides encryption through SSL or TLS
  - It can check that the website is genuine

8. a) Any 2 \* 1 mark each
- The good-quality graphics can help to create working environment
  - To assist with training / avoid dangerous situations / keep the cost down
  - As a reward for employees
  - As a stress relief
  - Helps in developing mind concentration
  - Can encourage staff interpersonal communication

- b) Any 2 \* 1 mark each
- Game playing is easily accessible and can be addictive
  - Can interfere with actual working hours
  - Could be unhealthy if an outside break is sacrificed for an indoor game
  - Drains battery use, and more power could be needed for other work-related tasks
  - The app could take up available storage space

9. **Level 1**  
 The candidate has briefly explained one advantage or one disadvantage OR two disadvantages. The candidate shows good clarity in their discussion and there is good use of punctuation and grammar.

#### Level 2 (3–4)

The candidate has described at least one advantage and at least one disadvantage. The candidate shows good clarity in their discussion and there is good use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

#### Level 3 (5–6)

The candidate has fully explained at least two advantages and at least two disadvantages. The candidate shows very good clarity in their discussion and there is very good use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

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### Advantages of mobile phone apps

- Readily available and easy to use
- Provide plenty of ways to interact, e.g. MMS, SMS, audio
- Communication can be global
- Communication can be 24/7
- Can set up own closed groups

### Disadvantages of mobile phone apps

- Mobile phone apps are not necessarily cross-platform
- Some of these apps are expensive
- There are a lot of apps out there, perhaps too many, so it is distracting
- Some apps require personal information to operate and this can be a security risk

10. a) An Internet-based service (1) that stores, manages and processes data
- b) i) Infrastructure as a Service  
ii) Software as a Service  
iii) Platform as a Service
- c) i) Cloud computing, servers, etc.  
ii) Application software  
iii) Operating systems programming environments, virtual web servers
- d) Any 3 \* 1 mark each
- Flexibility of growing bandwidth demand
  - A more cost-effective method of backup and recovery
  - Cloud suppliers tend to provide updates as a matter of form
  - Cuts out the high cost of a business having to purchase hardware
  - Staff collaboration and sharing of files can be more efficient
  - Staff can work from anywhere
  - Better security in that the data is not actually stored on a device which is lost

11. a)

Statement
You cannot give a copy of a music DVD to a friend.
You can rent software without the permission of the copyright holder.
You can make a copy of a DVD game, sell it and give the money to charity.
The law covers music, books, videos, games and software.
If you buy a copy of a piece of software, you can install it on a network.

- b) **Level 1 (1–2)**

The candidate has briefly explained one advantage OR one disadvantage OR two disadvantages. The candidate shows good clarity in their discussion and punctuation and grammar.

#### Level 2 (3–4)

The candidate has described at least one advantage and at least one disadvantage. The candidate shows good clarity in their discussion and there is good use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

#### Level 3 (5–6)

The candidate has fully explained at least two advantages and at least two disadvantages. The candidate shows very good clarity in their discussion and there is very good use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

### Advantages of e-commerce

- Can globally sell and buy
- Smaller companies can access wider markets and compete with large companies
- Fewer costs – less staffing required in stores and no cost for premises
- 24/7 business opportunities

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### Disadvantages of e-commerce

- Lack of personal touch
- Have to cope with a wide variety of currencies and languages
- Extra cost for global delivery
- Impersonal
- More open to security fraud
- Goods can be delayed

12.

Definition
A program designed to copy itself within and between computers in order to make a system unreliable.
Having to update work skills because of the introduction of computers.
Attempting to gain unauthorised access to a computer system.
An operating mode that can react quickly enough to influence behaviour.
An application used to prevent external users gaining access to a network.



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## **Preview of Answers Ends Here**

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