

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**FACULTY OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING**  
**PART I SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS – AUGUST 2011**  
**INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – AQS1109**

*Time: 3 Hours*

*Total Marks: 100*

**Instructions**

Answer any four questions

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**Question One**

- a) Give five differences between application software and development software. **[10 marks]**
- b) Explain the factors one considers on choosing hardware for a computerized data processing environment. **[15 marks]**

**Question Two**

The following are considered core data processing stages: **Data Input**

**Data Processing**

**Information Output**

**Information storage**

**Information Communication**

- a) Suggest for each stage any two computer devices that can be used to execute the stage. **[5 marks]**
- b) For the devices suggested in (i) above, use diagrams to explain how each of the devices works.

**[20 marks]**

**Question Three**

- a) Explain how printing is produced in the following printers:
  - i) Laser printer
  - ii) Chain Printer
  - iii) Dot matrix printer

**[15 marks]**

- b) Discuss the measures one can put in place to ensure the security of information in one's organization's computers. **[10 marks]**

**Question Four**

You have been tasked to come up with a paper to defend the use of a Transaction Processing system (TPS) to support your Quantity Surveying work environment. Put up five reasons you would include in your paper arguing why you think your organization should go ahead and implement the system.

**[25 marks]**

**Question Five**

- a) Explain the role of main memory in a computer system. **[5 marks]**
- b) Justify the importance of an operating system in a computer. **[10 marks]**
- c) Using appropriate examples compare and contrast a spreadsheet and a database system. **[10 marks]**