

Cambridge
International
AS & A Level

Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--



COMPUTER SCIENCE

9608/23

Paper 2 Fundamental Problem-solving and Programming Skills

October/November 2019

2 hours

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

No calculators allowed.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.

No marks will be awarded for using brand names of software packages or hardware.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

The maximum number of marks is 75.

This document consists of **16** printed pages.

Question 1 begins on the next page.

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which itself is a department of the University of Cambridge.

- 1 (a) (i) Programming languages can support different data types.

Complete the table by naming **three** different data types together with an example data value for each.

Data type	Example data value

[6]

- (ii) Identify the type of programming statement that assigns a data type to a variable.

..... [1]

- (b) As part of the development of an algorithm, a programmer may construct an identifier table.

Describe what an identifier table contains.

.....

 [2]

- (c) (i) Simple algorithms usually consist of three different stages.

Complete the table below. Write each example statement in **program code**.

The second stage has already been given.

Stage	Example statement
Process	

[5]

- (ii) Write a **single** statement in **program code** that contains **two** of the stages. Do **not** repeat any of the statements from **part (c)(i)**.

..... [1]

- (d) A software developer is writing a program and includes several features to make it easier to read and understand. One of these features is the use of indentation.

State **three other** features.

Feature 1

Feature 2

Feature 3

[3]

- (e) A trace table is often used during program testing.

Identify the type of testing that includes the use of a trace table.

..... [1]

- 2 (a) (i) Two types of loop that may be found in an algorithm are the 'pre-condition' and 'post-condition' loop.

Identify **one other** type of loop. Explain when it should be used.

Type

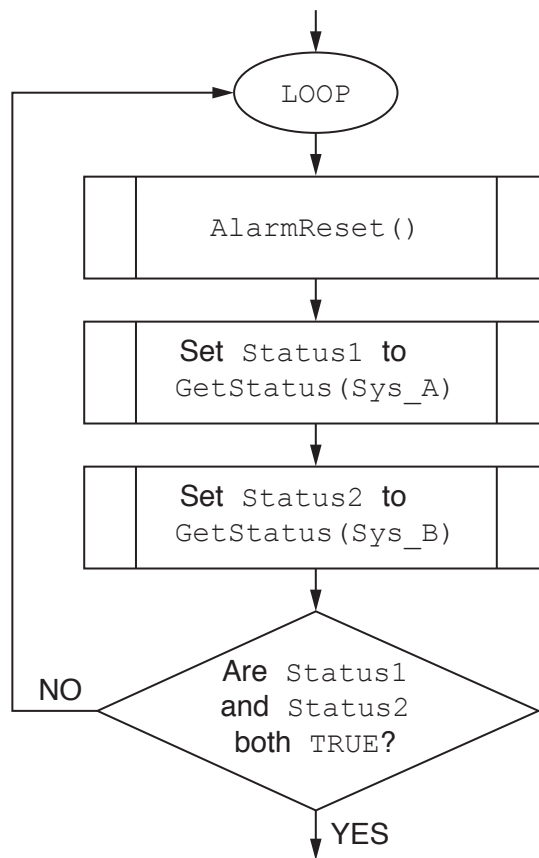
Explanation

.....

.....

[2]

- (ii) Part of a program flowchart is shown.



Implement the flowchart in **pseudocode** using a post-condition loop.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

(b) The following lines of code are taken from a high-level language program.

```

100 setvar(Count, Integer)
110 setvar(Gross[0-20], Real)
120 setvar(Posn, Real)
130 setvar(Length, Integer)
140 setvar(Rate, Real)
150 Length := 7
160 Rate := 1.175
170
180 For (Count, 0, 20, 2)
190 {
200     Echo "Input next cost"
210     Posn := Read()
220     Gross[Count] := Mult(Posn, Rate) %Apply current tax rate
230 }
```

Study the code. Identify the relevant features in the following table.

Feature	Answer
The symbol used to indicate an assignment	
The line numbers for the start and end of a count-controlled loop	
The step value of the count-controlled loop	
The character that indicates a comment	
The name of a function	

[5]

(c) A program written in a high-level language cannot be run directly.

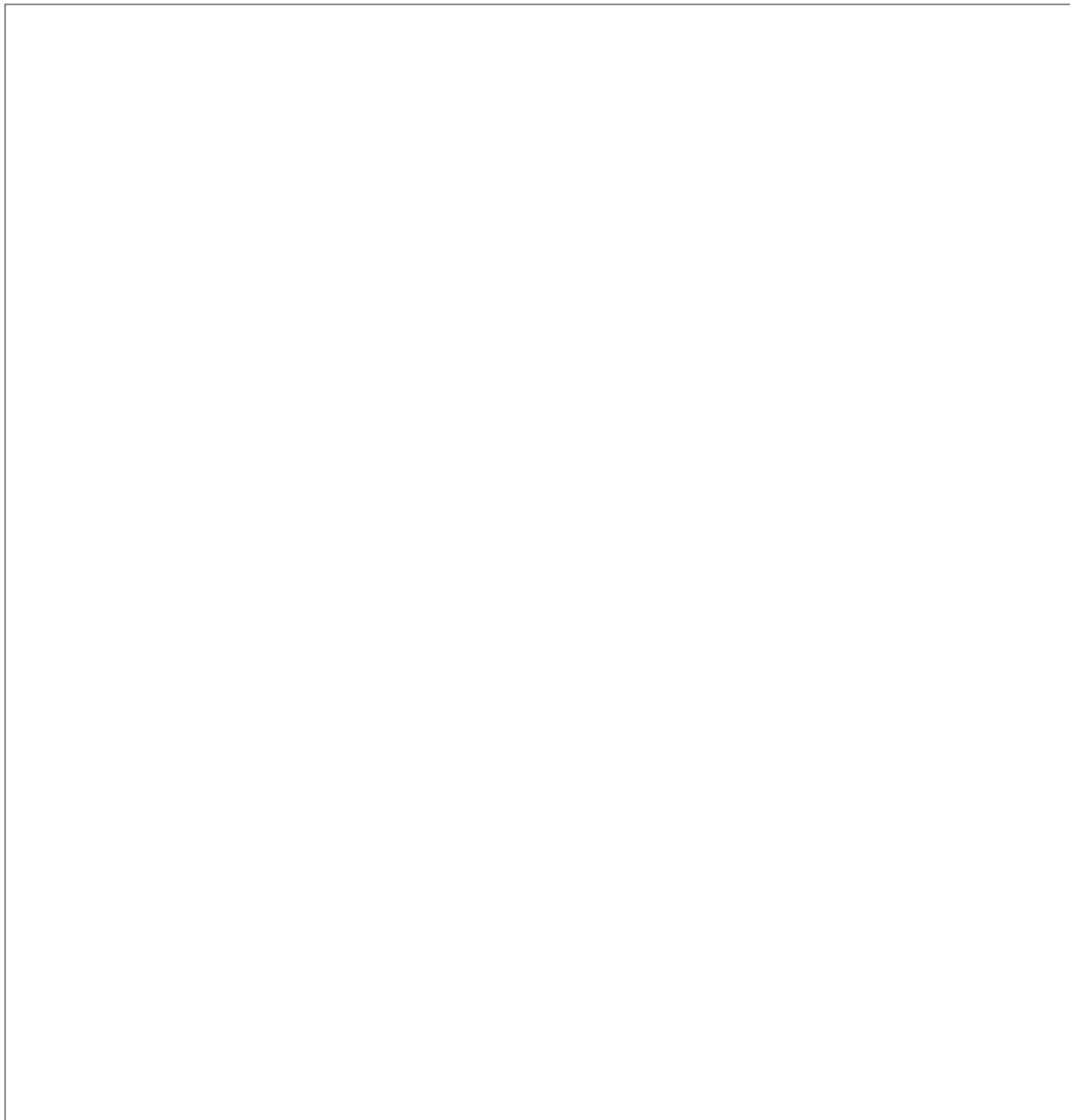
Identify **one** type of translator that can be used to translate the program.

..... [1]

- 3 Three program modules process updating of passwords in a file. A description of the relationship between the modules is summarised as follows:

Module name	Description
GetPassword()	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes two parameters: <code>AccountID</code> and <code>OldPassword</code>• Returns a string containing the new password
UpdateFile()	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes two parameters: <code>AccountID</code> and <code>NewPassword</code>• Returns a Boolean value to indicate whether or not the update was successful
ChangePassword()	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calls <code>GetPassword()</code> to obtain the new password then calls <code>UpdateFile()</code> to write the new password to the file

Draw a structure chart to show the relationship between the three modules and the parameters passed between them.



[5]

- 4 The following pseudocode algorithm checks whether a string is a valid email address.

```

FUNCTION Check(InString : STRING) RETURNS BOOLEAN

    DECLARE Index : INTEGER
    DECLARE NumDots : INTEGER
    DECLARE NumAts : INTEGER
    DECLARE NextChar : CHAR
    DECLARE NumOthers : INTEGER

    NumDots ← 0
    NumAts ← 0
    NumOthers ← 0

    FOR Index ← 1 TO LENGTH(InString)

        NextChar ← MID(InString, Index, 1)
        CASE OF NextChar
            '.': NumDots ← NumDots + 1
            '@': NumAts ← NumAts + 1
            OTHERWISE NumOthers ← NumOthers + 1
        ENDCASE

    ENDFOR

    IF (NumDots >= 1 AND NumAts = 1 AND NumOthers > 5)
        THEN
            RETURN TRUE
        ELSE
            RETURN FALSE
    ENDIF

ENDFUNCTION

```

- (a) Describe the validation rules that are implemented by this pseudocode. Refer **only** to the contents of the string and **not** to features of the pseudocode.

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

(b) (i) Complete the trace table by dry running the function when it is called as follows:

```
Result ← Check("Jim.99@skail.com")
```

Index	NextChar	NumDots	NumAts	NumOthers

[5]

(ii) State the value returned when function `Check` is called as shown in **part (b)(i)**.

..... [1]

(c) The function `Check()` is to be tested.

State **two** different invalid string values that could be used to test the algorithm. Each string should test a different rule.

Justify your choices.

Value

Justification

.....

.....

Value

Justification

.....

.....

[4]

5 Abbreviations are often used in place of a full name. Concatenating the first letter of each word in the name makes an abbreviation.

For example:

Name	Abbreviation
United Nations	UN
World Wide Web	WWW
British Computer Society	BCS

A function, `Abbreviate()`, will take a string representing the full name and return a string containing the abbreviated form.

You should assume that:

- names only contain alphabetic characters and space characters
- names always start with an alphabetic character
- each word in the name always starts with an uppercase character
- only a single space separates words in the name.

- 6 A text file, `Library.txt`, stores information relating to a book collection. The file stores four pieces of information about each book on separate lines of the file, as follows:

```
Line n:      <Book Title>
Line n + 1: <Author Name>
Line n + 2: <ISBN>
Line n + 3: <Location>
```

Information is stored as data strings.

Information relating to two books is shown:

File line	Data
100	"Learning Python"
101	"Brian Smith"
102	"978-14-56543-21-8"
103	"BD345"
104	"Surviving in the mountains"
105	"C T Snow"
106	"978-35-17635-43-9"
107	"ZX001"

- (a) (i) A function, `FindBooksBy()`, will search `Library.txt` for all books by a given author.

The function will store the `Book Title` and `Location` in the array `Result`, and will return a count of the number of books found.

Array `Result` is a global 2D array of type `STRING`. It has 100 rows and 2 columns.

Write **pseudocode** to declare the array `Result`.

.....

 [3]

- (ii) Function `FindBooksBy()` will:

- receive the `Author Name` as a parameter
- search `Library.txt` for matching entries
- store the `Book Title` and `Location` of matching entries in the `Result` array
- return an integer value giving the number of books by the author that were found.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [8]

(b) The function `FindBooksBy()` has already been called and has stored values in the array `Result`.

The procedure, `DisplayResults()`, will output the information from the array.

The procedure receives the following two parameters:

- a string containing the author name
- an integer value representing the number of books found

The output should be formatted as in the following example:

```
Books written by: Brian Smith

Title                Location
Learning Python      BD345
Arrays are not lists  CZ562
Learning Java         CZ589

Number of titles found: 3
```

If no books by the author are found, the following should be output:

```
Search found no books by: Brian Smith
```


Appendix

Built-in functions (pseudocode)

Each function returns an error if the function call is not properly formed.

MID(ThisString : STRING, x : INTEGER, y : INTEGER) RETURNS STRING
returns a string of length y starting at position x from ThisString

Example: MID("ABCDEFGH", 2, 3) returns "BCD"

LENGTH(ThisString : STRING) RETURNS INTEGER
returns the integer value representing the length of ThisString

Example: LENGTH("Happy Days") returns 10

LEFT(ThisString : STRING, x : INTEGER) RETURNS STRING
returns leftmost x characters from ThisString

Example: LEFT("ABCDEFGH", 3) returns "ABC"

RIGHT(ThisString: STRING, x : INTEGER) RETURNS STRING
returns rightmost x characters from ThisString

Example: RIGHT("ABCDEFGH", 3) returns "FGH"

INT(x : REAL) RETURNS INTEGER
returns the integer part of x

Example: INT(27.5415) returns 27

ASC(ThisChar : CHAR) RETURNS INTEGER
returns the ASCII value of ThisChar

Example: ASC('A') returns 65

MOD(ThisNum : INTEGER, ThisDiv : INTEGER) RETURNS INTEGER
returns the integer value representing the remainder when ThisNum is divided by ThisDiv

Example: MOD(10, 3) returns 1

Operators (pseudocode)

Operator	Description
&	Concatenates (joins) two strings Example: "Summer" & " " & "Pudding" produces "Summer Pudding"
AND	Performs a logical AND on two Boolean values Example: TRUE AND FALSE produces FALSE
OR	Performs a logical OR on two Boolean values Example: TRUE OR FALSE produces TRUE