

Software Engineering Trial Examination

Marking rubric, sample answers and mapping grid

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Marking rubrics, sample answers

Question 1

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies the correct answer - Can be installed like native apps	1

Question 2

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies the correct answer - JavaScript	1

Question 3

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies the correct answer – neural network	1

Question 4

Marking Criteria	Marks
Correctly matches 5 or 6 concepts to their correct definitions	2
Correctly matches at least 4 concepts	1

Sample answer:

Concept	Correct definition
1.decryption	D) Converts encrypted data back into a readable format
2.digital Signature	F) Used to verify the authenticity and integrity of a message
3.encryption	E) Converts readable data into a coded format to protect privacy
4.hashing	A) Converts data into a fixed-length value that cannot be reversed
5.plain text	C) Data that has not been encrypted or protected
6.SSL/TLS	B)Security protocols that enable encrypted communication over a network

1D, 2F, 3E, 4A, 5C, 6B

Question 5

Marking Criteria	Marks
- Identifies both descriptions correctly – - It produces code faster than the Waterfall approach. AND - It uses an iterative workflow.	1

Question 6

Marking Criteria	Marks
Lists at least Three ways that version control can improve web development	2
Lists at least two ways that version control can improve web development	1

Sample Answer

Version Control allows developers to manage changes to source code securely over time, facilitating collaboration, enhancing productivity, and maintaining project integrity. Successful version control tracking allows the project team to undo mistakes by reverting to previous backup versions. It also keeps track of which people on the team made edits to documentation.

Question 7

Marking Criteria	Marks
Describes validation and sanitation with appropriate examples.	2
Describes validation and sanitation with poorly chosen examples or no examples.	1

Sample Answer

Input validation involves checking the data provided by users to ensure it meets specific criteria, e.g. ensuring a phone number is numeric.

Input sanitation involves cleaning or altering the input data to remove or neutralise potentially harmful elements, e.g. SQL injection or XSS.

Question 8

Marking Criteria	Marks
Discusses 3 or more differences	3
- Discusses 2 differences - OR - Outlines 3 or more differences	2
Discusses 1 difference	1

Sample answer:

- Focus:
 - Front-End: Concentrates on the visual aspects of a website and user interaction.
 - Back-End: Deals with the server, database, and application logic that support the front-end.
- Technologies Used:
 - Front-End: Primarily uses HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, along with various frameworks/libraries.
 - Back-End: Utilises server-side programming languages (e.g. JavaScript with Node.js, Python, Ruby, PHP, Java, C#), databases, and server management tools.
- User Interaction:
 - Front-End: Directly interacts with users and is responsible for UI/UX design.
 - Back-End: Works behind the scenes, ensuring that the front-end has access to the necessary data and business logic without direct user interaction.

Sample answers continue on the following page

Question 8 marking criteria continued

- Development Environment:
 - Front-End: Typically involves code that runs in a web browser.
 - Back-End: Involves code that runs on servers and interacts with databases.

An answer could also include:

- Performance Considerations:
- Front-End: Performance is often tied to page load times, responsiveness, and interactivity.
- Back-End: Performance relates to server response times, database query efficiency, and application scalability.

Question 9

Marking Criteria	Marks
Correctly matches all 6 terms and definitions	2
Correctly matches 3 terms and definitions	1

Sample answer:

Term	Definition
1.algorithm	C) A set of processes or rules to be followed to solve problems.
2.data dictionary	A) A table which represents data items, their data types, format, size, and validation rules if they apply.
3.quality assurance	F) Performance of tasks to ensure that developed software continues to meet requirements.
4.source code	E) A set of instructions written in a programming language to perform specific tasks.
5.evaluation	D) Checking if developed software meets requirements or specifications.
6.storyboard	B) A sequence of sketches or mock-ups to represent how users navigate through different screens.

1C, 2A, 3F, 4E, 5D, 6B

Question 10

Part A

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies the correct answer: Design	1

Part B

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies TWO unique, relevant features	3
Identifies ONE unique, relevant feature	2
Identifies some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

- One-way: It is infeasible to recover the original data from the hash.
- Fixed-size output: The hash value will always be the same fixed length.
- Deterministic: The same input will always produce the same hash output.
- Collision resistance: Good hashing algorithms should minimize collisions.
- Efficiency: Fast hashing functions have a wider set of uses

Question 11

Part A

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies the correct answer- Polynomial regression	1

Part B

Marking Criteria	Marks
- Explains limitations for training or predicting simple curvilinear data with a Neural Network. - Shows a thorough understanding of Neural Networks.	5
- Outlines 2 or 3 limitations of Neural Networks relating to simple data - Shows an understanding of Neural Networks	4
Outlines 1 or 2 limitations of Neural Networks	3
Outlines some features of Neural Networks or the curvilinear form	2
Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

The dataset exhibits a straightforward curvilinear relationship between the feature and target variables, characteristic of polynomial data. For such cases, polynomial regression is an ideal modelling approach because it can efficiently and directly fit the data to a polynomial equation, providing both accuracy and interpretability.

Neural networks, by their nature, are complex and are optimised for learning patterns in complex data. When applied to this simple polynomial dataset, this increased complexity introduces a significant risk of overfitting.

Training a neural network requires considerably more computational resources compared to simpler forms such as polynomial regression. Neural networks require iterative training cycles, which consume substantial memory and processing power, whereas polynomial regression can typically be solved with minimal computational effort.

Sample answers continue on the following page

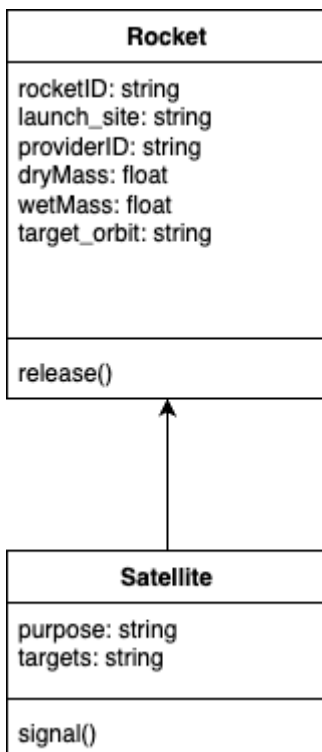
Question 11 Part B marking criteria continued

Answers could include:

- Overkill for Simplicity
- Risk of Overfitting
- Training Complexity
- Black box interpretability
- Unnecessary computational resources
- Environmental impact of such a complex model
- Complexity of implementation
- Potential for high bias between training data and unseen data
- Difficulty in a Neural network producing a polynomial form
- Variance between outputs
- Difficulties in interpretation

Question 12

Marking Criteria	Marks
Creates a correct class diagram inclusive of all elements AND inheritance as given in the question	3
Creates a correct class diagram inclusive of all elements as given in the question	2
Creates a partially correct class diagram with some elements as given in the question	1



Question 13

Marking Criteria	Marks
• Provides a correct SQL query	• 3
• Provides a SQL query that addresses some of the requirements.	• 2
• Shows some understanding of SQL	• 1

Sample answer:

```
SELECT albumname, albumprice
```

```
FROM albums
```

```
WHERE format = 'Vinyl'
```

```
ORDER BY albumprice DESC;
```

Question 14

Marking Criteria	Marks
• The solution fully implements the <i>has_symbol()</i> function with all required checks for symbol presence. • Well-structured code that uses subroutines effectively, enhancing readability and maintainability. • Provides clear feedback message for validation failure. • Coding practice includes consistent naming conventions, proper indentation, and necessary comments.	• 4
• The solution implements most of the required functionality but may have minor issues that slightly affect results. • Feedback message is present but may lack clarity. • May have minor inconsistencies in style or formatting.	• 3
• The solution implements some functionality with omissions or errors impacting overall results. • Provides minimal feedback to the user. • Inconsistent adherence to coding standards, naming, indentation, or lack of comments.	• 2
• Does not implement the required functionality or is fundamentally incorrect. • No effective use of subroutines, making the code difficult to follow. • Does not provide any user feedback nor error handling. • Unclear or unreadable code.	• 1

Sample answer Q14:

```
def has_symbol(username, password, symbols):  
  
    symbol_present = False  
  
    for char in username + password: # Concatenate both for checking  
  
        if char in symbols:  
  
            symbol_present = True  
  
            break # Exits the loop when the first symbol is found, no need to iterate further  
  
    if not symbol_present:  
  
        print("No symbol present in the username or password.")  
  
        return False  
  
    else:  
  
        return True
```

This function checks if either the username or password contains any symbols from the provided symbols list. If no symbols are found, it prints a message and returns False; otherwise, it returns True.

Question 15

Marking Criteria	Marks
detailed explanation of how both machine learning and business process automation can be applied including specific examples of machine learning techniques (e.g., regression analysis, time series forecasting) and business process automation applications (e.g., automated reporting, inventory management). Clear connection between the use of technology and the business goals.	4
- good explanation of how machine learning and business process automation can be used, covering most key points includes relevant examples - makes a logical connection between technology and business goals	3
- basic explanation of machine learning and business process automation, - generic examples used	2
minimal explanation with little understanding of machine learning and business process automation.	1

Sample answer Q15:

To help click shoe warehouse analyse their sales data effectively and achieve their goal of identifying the best-selling shoe sizes and styles in each season, both machine learning and business process automation can be utilised in the following ways:

Machine learning algorithms can be employed to analyse the 10 years of sales data. By using techniques such as regression analysis or time series forecasting, the system can identify patterns and trends in sales based on different factors like seasonality, style, and size. This would enable click shoe warehouse to predict future sales performance for various shoe styles and sizes during different seasons, helping them make informed inventory and marketing decisions.

Implementing recommendation algorithms can assist click shoe warehouse in providing personalised suggestions to customers based on their browsing and purchasing history. By analysing past sales data, the system can recommend specific sizes and styles that are popular during particular seasons, enhancing the customer experience and potentially increasing sales.

Business process automation can streamline the reporting process by automatically generating sales reports on a regular basis (e.g., monthly or quarterly). This will save time for the staff and ensure that insights into sales trends are readily available for decision-making. Automated reports can highlight key metrics such as top-selling styles and sizes for each season, allowing for quick assessments of performance.

By integrating business process automation with inventory management systems, click shoe warehouse can optimise stock levels based on predicted sales trends derived from machine learning models. This ensures that popular shoe sizes and styles are adequately stocked during peak seasons, reducing the risk of stockouts and enhancing customer satisfaction.

Question 16

Marking Criteria	Marks
Describes how TWO relevant strategies harden accounts against dictionary attacks	4
- Describes how ONE relevant strategy would protect against dictionary attacks OR - Outlines how TWO relevant strategies could be applied	3
Outlines relevant strategy(ies)	2
Provides some relevant information	1

Sample Answer:

The service could implement password complexity requirement that mandates special characters, length, etc to force users to use less vulnerable passwords. The service could implement rate limiting to reduce the ease with which large numbers of passwords can be tried by an attacker.

- Answers may also include:
 - Implementing user training on providing complex passwords to improve password quality
 - Using Multifactor authentication to thwart successful password guesses
- Examples of irrelevant suggestions include:
 - Encouraging the use of different passwords across accounts
 - Encrypting passwords in storage

Question 17

CMS vs CSS

Marking Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of both CMS and CSS. Thoroughly explains the advantages of each, highlighting their distinct roles in web development. Uses relevant examples and appropriate terminology to support the explanation.	• 4
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of CMS and CSS. • Identifies and describes key benefits of both technologies, with some use of appropriate terminology.	• 3
• Demonstrates a basic understanding by: • Shows awareness of the differences and purposes of CMS and CSS, though explanation lacks detail or clarity.	• 2
• Provides limited relevant information related to CMS or CSS. • Includes vague or generalised statements with minimal technical accuracy.	• 1

Sample Answer Q17:

In an HTML+ CSS designed website, developers have full control over every aspect of layout, design, and structure. Developers are able to design any configuration imaginable, as well as custom features, or further development in JavaScript, PHP, or other frameworks. In HTML/CSS there is less redundant overhead code, so HTML/CSS sites are often faster to load and more efficient than CMS-based sites bloated with plugins or themes.

CMS platforms offer pre-designed templates, themes, and drag-and-drop builders, allowing developers and non-developers to build sites quickly without writing much code. This can include prebuilt ecommerce and data security features. Also with CMS, content (text, images, blogs, etc.) can be edited through a user-friendly admin interface. For websites that require frequent updates (e.g. news sites, blogs, product listings), a CMS provides structure and automation to make updates more efficient and consistent.

Question 18

Marking Criteria	Marks
Elaborates both several positive and several negative potential impacts, providing a reasonable (more optimistic than cautious) balance between them	5
Provides both several positive and several negative potential impacts, but does not elaborate them sufficiently	4
- Elaborates only several positive impacts without discussing negative ones - OR - Elaborates only several negative impacts without discussing positive ones	3
Outlines only 1 positive AND 1 negative potential impact without elaborating	2
Outlines only 1 positive OR 1 negative potential impact without elaborating	1

Sample Answer:

While AI and ML hold significant promise for enhancing the production efficiency and reduce waste that pollutes the environment, they also pose challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that benefits are maximised while minimising negative impacts on the environment and society.

Sample answers continue on the following page

Question 18 marking criteria continued

- Potential positive impacts:
 - Increased production efficiency – AI and ML can optimise manufacturing processes by analysing data and identifying inefficiencies. This leads to faster production times, reduced downtime, and more streamlined operations, ultimately maximising output.
 - Waste reduction – ai can help in minimising waste by predicting demand more accurately, leading to better inventory management. By aligning production closely with actual demand, manufacturers can reduce overproduction and excess inventory, which contributes to waste.
 - Resource optimisation – machine learning algorithms can improve the use of materials by identifying the most efficient ways to utilise resources during production. This can lead to lower material costs and less waste, contributing positively to environmental sustainability.
 - Predictive maintenance – ai can monitor equipment performance and predict failures before they occur. This proactive approach to maintenance not only extends the lifespan of machinery but also decreases the likelihood of unexpected breakdowns, reducing waste and improving efficiency.
- Potential negative impacts:
 - Energy consumption – the implementation of ai systems can lead to significantly increased energy consumption, particularly if the infrastructure required to support these technologies is not energy efficient. This could counteract some environmental benefits.
 - E-waste generation – the rapid advancement of ai technologies may lead to shorter product lifespans for machinery and devices, contributing to increased electronic waste (e-waste) if not managed properly.

Question 19

Part A

Marking Criteria	Marks
Provides a user interface suitable for users to register with all form fields labelled, including input validation indicators	3
Designs the user interface with some relevant features	2
Shows some understanding of the problem	1

Online Registration Form

First Name

Last Name

email

Notification Method ☒ Email ☐ SMS

Create PIN

Confirm PIN

Pin must be 4 digits and not repeated

Part B

Marking Criteria	Marks
Provides a detailed explanation of multiple accessibility features and how they support users with specific needs. Uses correct terminology and relevant examples.	3
Outlines at least two accessibility features clearly, explaining how they help improve usability for users with disabilities.	2
Provides some relevant information about accessibility or usability in web forms	1

Sample answer:

Accessibility features improve web form usability by ensuring all users, including those with disabilities, can interact with the form effectively. For example, using properly associated `<label>` tags with each form input allows screen readers to announce the purpose of each field to visually impaired users. Adding `aria-label` or `aria-describedby` attributes provides further context when standard labels aren't sufficient.

Keyboard navigation is another essential feature ensuring users can tab through fields and activate buttons without needing a mouse supports users with motor impairments. Additionally, maintaining high colour contrast between text and background helps users with low vision or colour blindness read form content more easily. These features collectively create an inclusive interface that complies with accessibility standards.

Question 20

Marking Criteria	Marks
Describes the KNN algorithm for regression, including distance, selection of K value and the prediction as the mean of the K features.	4
Outlines most of the KNN algorithm	3
Outlines some features of the KNN Algorithm	2
Outlines some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

- The K-Nearest Neighbours (KNN) algorithm is a supervised learning technique that generates predictions based on labelled data. KNN is particularly effective for datasets characterized by a low coefficient of variation. The non-linear algorithm operates as follows:
- Distance Calculation: For a given query (new data point), KNN computes the Euclidean distance (i.e., the straight-line distance) between the query and each point in the training dataset.
- Neighbour Selection: The algorithm identifies and sorts the training data points by their distance to the query, selecting the nearest K points (in this case, K=3).
- Prediction: The predicted value for the query point is determined by calculating the mean of the target values of these K nearest neighbours.

Note: students can refer to any appropriate KNN distance measure, such as Euclidean, Manhattan, Minkowski, etc

Question 21

Part A

Marking Criteria	Marks
Correctly implements the stub in python code	1

```
def login(username, password):  
  
    if username == "user1" and password == "pass123":  
  
        return "Login successful"  
  
    else:  
  
        return "Login failed"
```

Or equivalent, e.g.:

```
def login(username, password):  
  
    if username == "user1":  
  
        if password == "pass123":  
  
            return "Login successful"  
  
    return "Login failed"
```

Part B

Marking Criteria	Marks
Correctly provides and justifies TWO relevant tests	2
- Correctly provides and justifies ONE relevant test OR - Provides two correct tests without comment OR - Suggests two correct tests without implementation	1

Sample Answers

- Two incorrect parameters
- One incorrect and one correct parameter
- Empty strings
- Wrong number of parameters

E.g.:

```
IF login("user1", "wrongpass") == "Login failed" THEN
```

```
PRINT "Test case 2 failed"
```

```
# Testing incorrect password
```

```
IF login("wronguser", "pass123") == "Login failed" THEN
```

```
PRINT "Test case 3 failed"
```

```
# Testing incorrect username
```

```
IF login("", "") == "Login failed" THEN
```

```
PRINT "Test case 4 failed"
```

```
# Testing empty username and password
```

Part C

Marking Criteria	Marks
Identifies two considerations of different types.	2
- Identifies one consideration OR - Identifies multiple considerations of the same type	1

Sample Answers

- Limit exposure of information (e.g. That username does not exist)
- Provide friendly and non-threatening messaging
- Ensure the message is helpful (e.g. offer a password reset link).

Question 22

Part A (3 marks)

Marking Criteria	Marks
Explains communications issues including client involvement, gathering feedback AND negotiating solutions to problems	3
Describes some communication issues such as client involvement, gathering feedback OR negotiating solutions to problems	2
States communications issues	1

Sample answer:

With each stakeholder being geographically distant from each other, issues such as involving clients, getting instantaneous or near instantaneous feedback and negotiations are logistically a lot more difficult. Different time zones, legal frameworks and government requirements between each city, as well as negotiating customer requirements are met, all add additional pressures to the usage of maintenance of the computer systems at this toy manufacturing company. As a result, messages, important documents, payments and other technical compliance and logistics issues may not be organised or used in the most optimal manner, meaning longer wait times for technical problem fixes.

Alternative answers could include:

- Internet connectivity may be a problem in more geographically distant areas, especially as you get further away from the capital cities of Sydney, Canberra and Adelaide.
- Different levels of government in different states or territories may require different levels of approval, types of documents, or processes to be followed.
- Time and money for hardware fixes, purchases or installation of required computing, electrical or telecommunications products may be significantly higher in other smaller cities.
- Lack of technical expertise to resolve either toy manufacture or telecommunications issues may hinder toy manufacturing or production rates

Part B (2 marks)

Marking Criteria	Marks
Explains features common AND different to both Hybrid (WAgile) and Waterfall software development methodologies.	2
Explains features common OR different to Hybrid (WAgile) OR Waterfall software development methodologies.	1

Sample answer:

The Waterfall model of software development has each part of the development process rely on documentation and feedback from the previous section in order to progress forward. Each stage therefore ‘waterfalls’ or ‘cascades’ into the next one. This allows the documentation and checking for compliance of each part of the software solution, ensuring all legalities are met. WAgile software development, or the Waterfall-Agile model, spends time gathering requirements, aligning them to legal requirements and iterating the designing, building, and testing parts of the Waterfall model. This allows a quicker yet more gradual software development approach, with parts of functionality added as more and more parts of the program are written. In contrast, the Waterfall model requires each stage to be complete before moving to the next step, meaning that development time can be slower.

Sample answers continue on the following page

Question 22 Part B marking criteria continued

Alternate answers could include:

- Requirements definition, designing, building and testing are common to both WAgile and Waterfall software development models.
- Evaluation of projects is of equal importance in both WAgile and Waterfall models.
- The focus of WAgile is designing, building, and testing rapidly in short spurts called 'sprints' after ensuring requirements are fully defined.
- The focus of Waterfall is ensuring requirements are fully defined and carried through from stage to stage of the Waterfall software development model.
- Evaluation in WAgile projects is done iteratively at the end of each design – build – test 'sprint'.
- Functionality in WAgile projects is built incrementally, with only a few features implemented at a time.
- Functionality in Waterfall projects is built in all at once, meaning all requirements and thus features are designed, built, tested then are implemented in one go.
- Evaluation in Waterfall projects is done at the end of the entire project when it has been completely deployed to the client.

Question 23

Marking Criteria	Marks
Discusses ethical, legal and technical ramifications for both users and the enterprise.	8
Outlines ethical, legal AND technical ramifications for both the user AND the enterprise.	6-7
Outlines ethical, legal AND technical ramifications for the user OR the enterprise.	5-4
Shows some understanding of ethical OR legal ramifications for either users OR the enterprise.	2-3
Provides some relevant information.	1

Sample Answer

A security breach has ethical ramifications for users, as it compromises their privacy and can lead to identity theft. Legally, users may have grounds for lawsuits if their data is mishandled. Users have limited practical options to protect themselves but could disable scripts on pages they visit.

For the enterprise, the legal implications include potential fines and penalties for violating data protection laws. Ethically, the enterprise must take responsibility for protecting user data, and failing to do so can harm its reputation and customer relationships. The enterprise must implement basic security measures such as input validation and output encoding.

Sample answers continue on the following page

Question 23 marking criteria continued

Answers may include:

- For users:
 - Ethical (Violation of Privacy, Loss of autonomy and control of own data, Psychological harm including stress, reputational damage)
 - Legal (Risk of identity theft, possible compensation)
 - Technical (Limited options – e.g. disabling JS)
- For enterprises:
 - Ethical (Breach of trust, failed duty of care – reputational damage)
 - Legal (Data Protection e.g. Privacy Act and GDPR leading to fines, mandatory breach notifications, regulator investigation; civil liability; contractual breaches; criminal liability)
 - Technical (Input validation, parameterised queries, output encoding, Content Security Policy)

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Mapping Grid

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes	Targeted performance bands
1	1	Programming for the Web- Applications of Web Programming	SE-12-03	2-3
2	1	Programming for the Web – Front end programming	SE-12-05	2-3
3	1	Software Automation - Describe types of algorithms associated with ML	SE-12-06	3-4
4	2	Programming for the Web-Process for securing the Web	SE-12-07	3-4
5	1	Software engineering project – Research and Planning	SE-12-01	2-3
6	2	Programming for the Web - version control	SE-12-09	3-4
7	2	Secure Software Architecture – Validation and Sanitation	SE-12-07	3-4
8	3	Programming for the Web - Model elements that form a web development system	SE-12-06	2-3

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes	Targeted performance bands
9	2	Software Engineering Project-Tools	SE-12-06	3-4
10	4	Secure Software Architecture - Hashing Algorithms	SE-12-01 SE-12-07	2-3 2-5
11	6	Software Automation – Polynomial Regression & Neural Networks	SE-12-06	4-6
12	3	Software Engineering Project – Class diagrams	SE-12-06 SE-12-01	4-5
13	3	Programming for the Web - SQL Queries	SE-12-08	3-5
14	4	Secure Software Architecture – Passwords – Input validation	SE-12-07	4–5
15	4	Software Automation - RBA	SE-12-06	4-5
16	4	Secure Software Architecture - Passwords	SE-12-07	5–6

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes	Targeted performance bands
17	4	Programming for the Web CMS vs CSS	SE-12-01	3-5
18	5	Software Automation – Assess the impact of automation on the individual, society and the environment	SE-12-05	3-5
19	6	Programming on the Web – User Interface, Accessibility	SE-12-01, SE-12-05	3-5
20	4	Software Automation – KNN Regression	SE-12-03	3–5
21	5	Software Project – Authentication, Testing, User Experience	SE-12-06 SE-12-08 SE-12-04	3-4 3-4 4-5
22	5	Software Engineering Project – Software Development Approaches	SE-12-05	3-6

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes	Targeted performance bands
23	8	Secure Software Architecture – Ethical, Legal and Technical implications of XSS	SE-12-07 SE-12-05	4-6

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