

Moderation Feedback

Assessment Panel:

Computing and Information Technology

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

**Information Systems – Higher and
Intermediate 2**

Central Moderation

General comments on central moderation activity

Candidate performance in both Intermediate and Higher was generally good although there were an alarming number of centres not accepted this year. The main reason for this was the centres' inability to apply the detailed marking scheme properly. This resulted in lenient marking and consequently 32 out of 107 centres were not accepted compared to 18 out of 99 at the same event last year before finalisation. The majority of centres managed to submit the candidates' marks correctly as percentages although several still submitted a raw mark.

Feedback to centres

1. Marks should be entered as percentages on the moderation sample form and not as raw marks.
2. NABs cannot be used for coursework (except when explicitly allowed).
3. It is not acceptable to combine the Primary entities with the 1NF entities. They must be shown separately.
4. In the Analysis and Design section some candidates are stating that member no. and property code in the bookings entity are unique identifiers when they cannot possibly be. This has been highlighted and noted to centres.
5. Property code and member no. must be included in the bookings entry to gain full marks.
6. Relationships should be explicitly stated and not inferred from the ER diagram.
7. Extraneous relationships are incorrect and should be penalised since they do not represent the data model.
8. ER diagrams should be annotated to show the relationships.
9. For task 2 (design a database structure), candidates should design the database structure before implementation in their chosen software. It is not acceptable to submit screen shots of the design view of tables created in Access as this is clearly implementation. The marking scheme requires the designed database structures to be appropriate to the intended implementation method.
10. If candidates are extending the data dictionary in Outcome 1 in order to cover the requirements for Outcome 2 then this must be explicitly stated. Candidates must differentiate clearly between their data dictionary in Outcome 1 and their design of the database structure for implementation in Outcome 2.
11. Reports should reflect a different layout other than just a printout of a collection of fields.
12. Accept both tactical and operational for Task 4 as long as explanation is correct.
13. Do not accept the ER diagram in Access using the tables showing the relationships as part of the analysis and design. This is implementation.
14. In the functions required (section 1e) candidates must state the time period of one month for one of the processes and the output in order to gain the marks.
15. Centres should discourage candidates from copying verbatim information from the booklet “Using Microsoft Access for Database Systems” for task 3e (evaluation).

Standardising Issues at Int 2

1. The task asks the candidates to choose 3 different software packages to explore. The arrangements state that different types of application software should be explored. If a candidate chooses 3 different types of database package then that satisfies the coursework as 3 different types of database can be regarded as 3 different software packages but not the arrangements as they are not 3 different types of application package.
2. Do not penalise if candidates show the 2 records for the search on wisdom teeth.
3. Do not use the beta version of the coursework.
4. NABs cannot be used for coursework.