

INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (GHANA)



MAY 2011 EXAMINATIONS
(PROFESSIONAL)

PART 1

BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS
(Paper 1.4)

TIME ALLOWED:

Reading & Planning - 15 Minutes
Workings - 3 Hours

SECTION A: COMPULSORY

READ THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO CAREFULLY AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BASED ON THE SCENARIO

SCENARIO

Pelp Ltd is a manufacturer of children's food with a factory, head office, and two (2) distribution outlets in Accra. The factory and head office are on the same premises.

Pelp Ltd has a centralised Information Systems (IS) department and operates with an IBM minicomputer to which are connected twenty (20) dumb terminals that are used by both the IS and other staff of the company.

The company has six major departments besides the IS department and all of them depend on the centralised IS department for IS services.

A number of PCs are also available for use within the company for certain clerical and administrative jobs.

Staff at the various departments raise vouchers for the transactions they generate and enter these vouchers using their dumb terminals.

Each member of staff has an authority level allocated to him/her, together with a password.

This is meant to serve logical access purposes. At the start of each day's work, two particular officers from the IS department separately enter two halves of a code (password) that then starts the minicomputer for work to commence for the day.

The major processing activities for Pelp Ltd are run in batch mode and there is a data control section within the IS department that ensures timelines and accuracy of input data prior to processing, and accuracy of the outputs before these are made available to the user departments.

The vouchers that are input are sent to the IS department which ensures they are returned to the various user departments the next morning (if it is a working day).

Data validation routines are available at input time for the staff to identify any errors and correct them. Verification of data, however, is carried out at the data control section by printing a check report of the data input and doing a call-over, using the vouchers.

Any input errors are brought to the attention of the user departments which then have the responsibility of correcting them. The corrections are further checked and finalised before processing can commence.

