

# Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

Pearson Edexcel

International GCSE in Information and  
Communication Technology (ICT)

(4IT0) Paper 01: Written Paper

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## Multi-choice questions

The performance of candidates was good with only questions 12, 15 and 16 causing difficulty. These were aimed at higher ability candidates so this was to be expected. Q12 – many candidates did not identify that information on the internet 'is subject to copyright laws'. Many of those who got this incorrect thought that everything 'can be legally copied'.

Q15 – the most frequent incorrect response selected was 'monitoring of machinery'. The response did not indicate how the monitoring would be done.

Q16 – this was the most difficult multi-choice question and the response was not out of line with what was expected.

## Free response questions

### Question 17

This was well answered in general. Some candidates had difficulty with 17d(i) and answers in 17d(ii) tended to lack precision. In 17d(ii) many referred to cable or port without naming them and did not indicate how transfers took place. However the question differentiated well around a mean mark of 2 out of 4. In 17g many candidates mentioned renaming files without indicating what would make them easier to identify.

### Question 18

18a and 18b were well answered with better candidates achieving full marks and very few no marks. Common misunderstandings related to the ability to get a refund, which is actually a requirement for online sales but not for shops and that delivery is always an additional cost for online sales, also not true. 18c was not well answered. It is important to read questions carefully. *Sports-store* already has a website so the major benefit is the reduction in rent and overheads for shops and staff costs. Few candidates achieved the mark for 18e(ii) – many identified item code but that will not uniquely identify a delivery.

### Question 19

19b was not well answered. Candidates were not able to fully explain what an intranet is, though most were aware that it is related to a network within an organisation. Many were not able to identify facilities that could be provided on the bank's intranet. These do not include general customer services such as balance checks and payments. Few candidates provided answers worth full marks for 19c(i) or (ii). Many included savings in time and money relating to the lack of travel to meetings as benefits and the lack of face to face discussions and loss of body language as drawbacks. 19d(ii) was not well answered.

## Question 20

Question 20a was well answered by many candidates but some focussed on stopping Alun using the internet at all or monitoring the sites that Alun visits. The question was really about actions that could be taken that would allow Alun access to the internet.

There were some very good responses to 20b with most candidates able to access marks.

## Question 21

Question 21b was very badly answered. Candidates tended to respond with general discussion about the use of a network key rather than the impact of the network key on the transmission of data. However it was aimed that the most able candidates who did achieve better than others.

There were some very good responses to 21d with most candidates able to access marks. Interestingly many candidates demonstrated understanding of the content of 21b in their response to 21d.

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