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About this document
This assignment comprises all of the assessment for Level 3 Testing ICT systems 3 (7266/7267-505/7540-321).

Health and safety
You are asked to consider the importance of safe working practices at all times.

You are responsible for maintaining the safety of others as well as your own. Anyone behaving in an unsafe fashion will be stopped and a suitable warning given. You will not be allowed to continue with an assignment if you compromise any of the Health and Safety requirements. This may seem rather strict but, apart from the potentially unpleasant consequences, you must acquire the habits required for the workplace.

Time allowance
The recommended time allowance for this assignment is 5 hours.
Time allowance: 5 hours

Assignment set up:

This assignment is made up of three tasks

- Task A – Gather system information and design a test plan
- Task B – Carry out a planned test schedule
- Task C – Compile a test report and answer underpinning knowledge questions

Scenario

You work as a support technician in a call centre and you have been asked to set up a temporary workstation for an auditor. The auditor needs access to all of the data on the system but not to any of the system management facilities. You have set up a workstation with the necessary software and your manager now wants you to devise and carry out a thorough test plan for the workstation. Since the auditor will be downloading large amounts of data for encryption and storing on optical media, the amount of data the system can handle will be important.

The test plan should be comprehensive enough so that it can be used to test most typical workstations without much alteration and should cover functionality, usability, capacity and performance under load.

Task A – Gather system information and design a test plan

1. Using a third party software utility provided by your Assessor and other operating system utilities as required, find out all of the information about the workstation, particularly its capacity and expected performance. Record the information for later use.

2. Assuming the testing is to be done during normal working hours, use the call centre network and other facilities to write down seven headings or main features that need to be put into a system test plan. The test plan must be viable.

3. Design a system test plan for hardware and software, using information from Task A1 and any other information you have gathered. Note any tests that may affect existing data and the measures to be taken to prevent loss or corruption of data.

   The test plan must include six tests and six monitoring operations covering functionality and usability. Include tests for HDD integrity and RAM.
Task B – Carry out a planned test schedule

1. Record the existing system configuration using screen prints.
2. Record the user settings using screen prints.
3. Scan the system for viruses and spyware and record the results using screen prints.
4. Carry out the measures you identified in Task A3 to prevent loss or corruption of data.
5. Carry out the planned test schedule, recording the expected and actual results of each test in turn. Make changes to the system configuration settings necessary to bring the system performance to the required specification. Note any configuration changes you made in order to satisfy the performance requirements.

Task C – Compile a test report and answer underpinning knowledge questions

1. Using the data collected in Tasks A and B, compile a short written report detailing
   - faults found during the tests
   - recommended repair action and/or action carried out to allow the tests to continue
   - actual system performance compared with expected performance
   - configuration changes made to improve performance during the tests
   - remaining shortfalls in performance
   - recommended upgrade/modification options to improve performance.

Q1 State three advantages of having standard test procedures in an organisation that have a number of workstations that are similar in function.

Q2 Briefly explain three reasons why it is important to discuss a proposed system testing plan with the customer who operates the system.

Q3 Briefly describe three ways in which system hardware, software and configuration could be identified.

Q4 State three sources of detailed information on individual components (software and hardware) that make up a system.
When you have finished working:

- Sign each document above your name and label all removable storage media with your name.
- Hand all paperwork and removable storage media to your assessor.

If the assignment is taken over more than one period, all paperwork and removable media must be returned to the test supervisor at the end of each sitting.

End of assignment