



*(Knowledge for development)*

**KIBABII UNIVERSITY**

**(KIBU)**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS**

**YEAR ONE SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DIPLOMA IN**

**(INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)**

**COURSE CODE : DIT050**

**COURSE TITLE : IT ESSENTIALS**

**DATE: 24/09/2021**

**TIME: 8.00 A.M.-10.00 A.M.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO**

**QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) [24 MARKS]**

- a) Briefly describe the following types of microcomputers **[8marks]**
- i. Desktop computer
  - ii. Notebooks and PDAS
  - iii. Laptop computers
  - iv. Network Server
- b) Considering the development of information technology in the 1990s, outline any two emerging trends that suggest the future of computing **[4marks]**
- c) Explain the main units of the central processing unit (CPU) giving their functions **[5marks]**
- d) Describe five secondary computer storage devices **[5marks]**
- e) Explain the two types of computer software **[2marks]**

**QUESTION TWO [18MARKS]**

- a) Define the following terms:  
**[8marks]**
- i. Virtual Memory
  - ii. Multiprogramming
  - iii. Multiprocessing
  - iv. Instruction cycle
- b) Briefly describe two types of magnetic storage devices. **[4marks]**
- c) Briefly describe the three components that make up the CPU. **[6marks]**

**QUESTION THREE [18MARKS]**

- a) Describe any five fields in which computer knowledge is applied **[5marks]**
- b) State and explain **FIVE** advantages of using computers **[5marks]**
- c) Describe briefly **two** different types of network topologies citing at least one advantage and one disadvantages **[8marks]**

#### **QUESTION FOUR [18 MARKS]**

- a) An operating system executes many functions to operate efficiently. Explain four of its essential functions **[8marks]**
- b) Using suitable examples, distinguish the following computer hardware: **[4marks]**
- i. Laser printer and inkjet printer
  - ii. RAM and ROM
- c) There are various ergonomics and health effects associated with the use of laptops. Cite any four. **[4marks]**
- d) What is the difference between hardware and software **[2marks]**

#### **QUESTION FIVE [18MARKS]**

- a) Describe the preparations made before setting up a new computer system **[5marks]**
- b) When acquiring an office computer system, state 4 key factors that will be considered when selecting between the various dealers who have submitted tenders **[5marks]**
- c) What is a network operating system **[2marks]**
- d) During supplier evaluation, which attributes should be given preference in the event suppliers tie. **[6marks]**