



**Victorian Certificate of Education  
2006**

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

**STUDENT NUMBER**

Letter

Figures										
Words										

**VCE VET ELECTROTECHNOLOGY**  
**Written examination**

**Thursday 2 November 2006**

**Reading time: 9.00 am to 9.15 am (15 minutes)**

**Writing time: 9.15 am to 10.45 am (1 hour 30 minutes)**

**QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK**

**Structure of book**

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	20	20	20
B	10	10	80
			Total 100

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, one scientific calculator.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white-out liquid/tape.

**Materials supplied**

- Question and answer book of 21 pages including a formula sheet on page 21.
- Answer sheet for multiple-choice questions.

**Instructions**

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- Check that your **name** and **student number** as printed on your answer sheet for multiple-choice questions are correct, **and** sign your name in the space provided to verify this.
- All written responses must be in English.

**At the end of the examination**

- Place the answer sheet for multiple-choice questions inside the front cover of this book.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.**

**SECTION A – Multiple-choice questions****Instructions for Section A**

Answer **all** questions in pencil on the answer sheet provided for multiple-choice questions.

Choose the response that is **correct** or that **best answers** the question.

A correct answer scores 1, an incorrect answer scores 0.

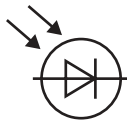
Marks will **not** be deducted for incorrect answers.

No marks will be given if more than one answer is completed for any question.

**Question 1**

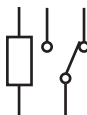
How many individual cells are contained in a standard 9 volt clip connection battery?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 6
- D. 9

**Question 2**

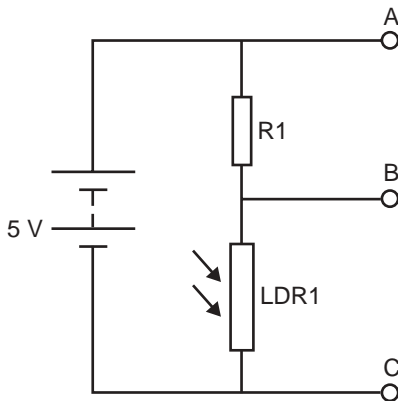
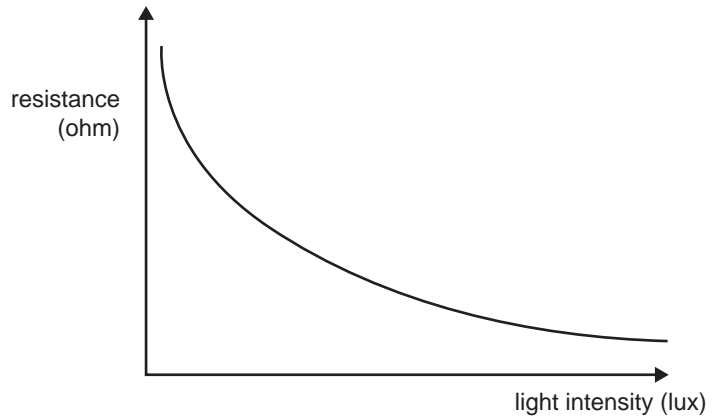
What is the name of the device represented by the symbol above?

- A. photodiode
- B. light-emitting diode
- C. rectifier diode
- D. Zener diode

**Question 3**

What is the name of the device represented by the symbol above?

- A. single throw switch
- B. contact resistor
- C. thermal switch
- D. relay

**Question 4****Figure 1a****Figure 1b**

The light-dependent resistor, LDR1, in Figure 1a has a resistance characteristic shown in Figure 1b.

If there is a decrease in light intensity, the voltage across R1 will

- A. decrease.
- B. become negative.
- C. increase.
- D. equal 5 V

**Question 5**

An appliance is fitted with a 2 amp fast-blow fuse. The fuse blows and is replaced by another 2 amp fast-blow fuse. The replacement fuse blows immediately.

What is the best action to take now?

- A. fit a piece of wire to bypass the fuse
- B. insert a 2 amp slow-blow fuse
- C. have the appliance sent for repair
- D. try a 3 amp fast-blow fuse

**Question 6**

An RCD (residual current detector) fitted to a switchboard provides protection against electrocution by tripping a circuit breaker when

- A. current imbalance is detected between the active and neutral conductors.
- B. current is detected in the earth conductor.
- C. balanced current is detected in both active and neutral conductors.
- D. current is detected in the neutral wire.

**Question 7**

How should an ESD protection wrist strap be connected to ground?

- A. by connection to the PC metal case
- B. through a 1 M  $\Omega$  resistor to mains earth
- C. by the neutral wire in a double-insulated circuit
- D. by direct connection to mains earth

**Question 8**

The earth connection to the exposed metal case of a piece of electrical equipment has become disconnected. What effect will this have on the operation of the equipment?

- A. The switchboard fuse will blow as soon as human contact with the case occurs.
- B. The switchboard fuse will blow immediately.
- C. The equipment will continue to operate.
- D. The RCD circuit breaker will operate.

**Question 9**

The main purpose of incorporating a circuit breaker is to

- A. offer a discharge path to earth for static charge build up.
- B. protect the circuit wiring against the effects of excessive fault currents.
- C. offer electrical shock prevention from earth leakage currents.
- D. protect equipment from the effects of earth leakage currents.

**Question 10**

A technique to preserve life is known by the letters CPR.

What does CPR stand for?

- A. Cardiac Pulse Rescue
- B. Chest Pressure Reticulation
- C. Coronary Pulse Reticulation
- D. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation

**Question 11**

On a PC motherboard, data is transferred between the CPU and onboard memory via a

- A. parallel bus.
- B. serial bus.
- C. USB interface.
- D. CAT 5 cable.

**Question 12**

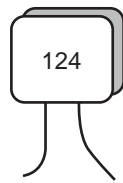
How many numbers can be represented by an 8 bit binary code?

- A. 8
- B. 16
- C. 64
- D. 256

**Question 13**

What type of memory is used in a USB memory stick?

- A. ROM
- B. RAM
- C. Flash
- D. SIM

**Question 14**

What is the value of the capacitor shown above?

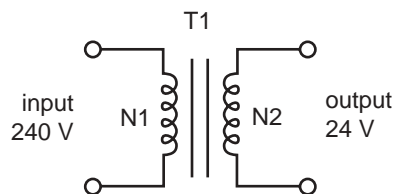
- A. 48 picofarad
- B. 120 nanofarad
- C. 124 picofarad
- D. 124 nanofarad

**Question 15**

A surface mount resistor has the numbers **103** printed on it.

What is the value of the resistor?

- A. 30 ohm
- B. 103 ohm
- C. 1000 ohm
- D. 10 000 ohm

**Question 16**

**Figure 2**

In Figure 2, what type of transformer is T1?

- A. step-down transformer with a turns ratio of 10:1
- B. step-down transformer with a turns ratio of 1:10
- C. step-up transformer with a turns ratio of 10:1
- D. step-up transformer with a turns ratio of 1:10

Use the following information to answer Questions 17–20.

The voltage waveform across the load resistor, R1, in Figure 3a is shown in Figure 3b.

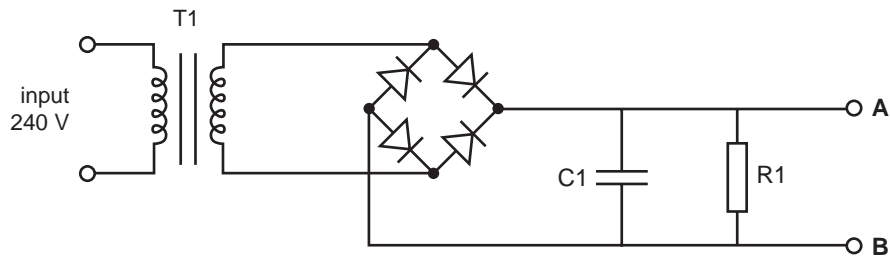


Figure 3a

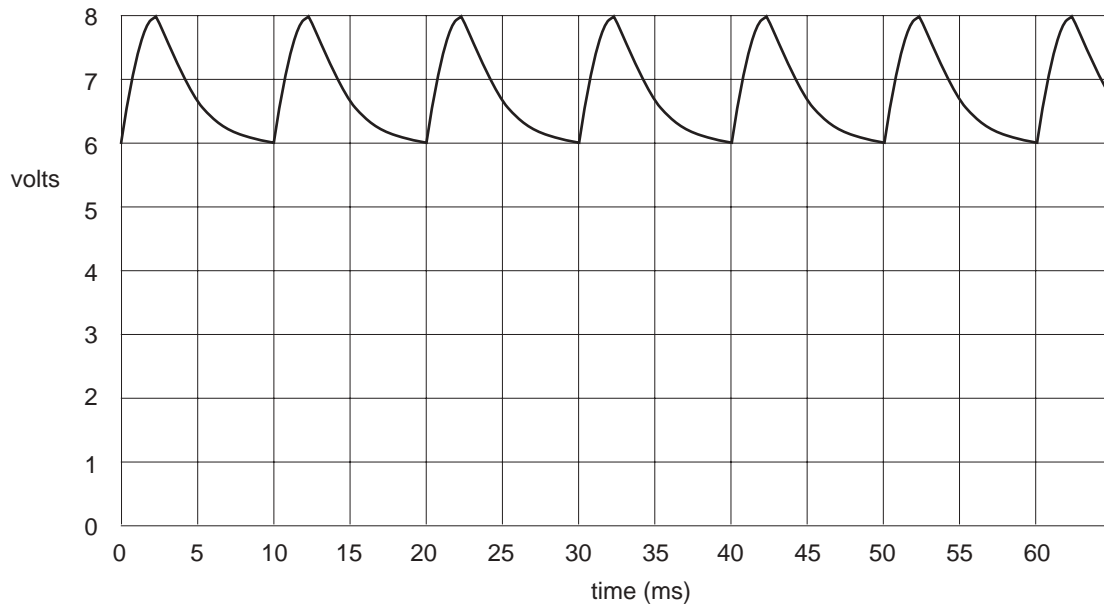


Figure 3b

### Question 17

The rectifier circuit in Figure 3a is a

- A. centre-tapped rectifier.
- B. full-wave bridge rectifier.
- C. capacitive rectifier.
- D. half-wave rectifier.

### Question 18

A DC voltmeter placed across the load will read approximately

- A. 8 V
- B. 7 V
- C. 6 V
- D. 0 V

**Question 19**

The frequency of the 240 V supply voltage is

- A. 10 Hz
- B. 20 Hz
- C. 50 Hz
- D. 100 Hz

**Question 20**

If the load resistor, R1, becomes an open circuit, the voltage across A–B will equal

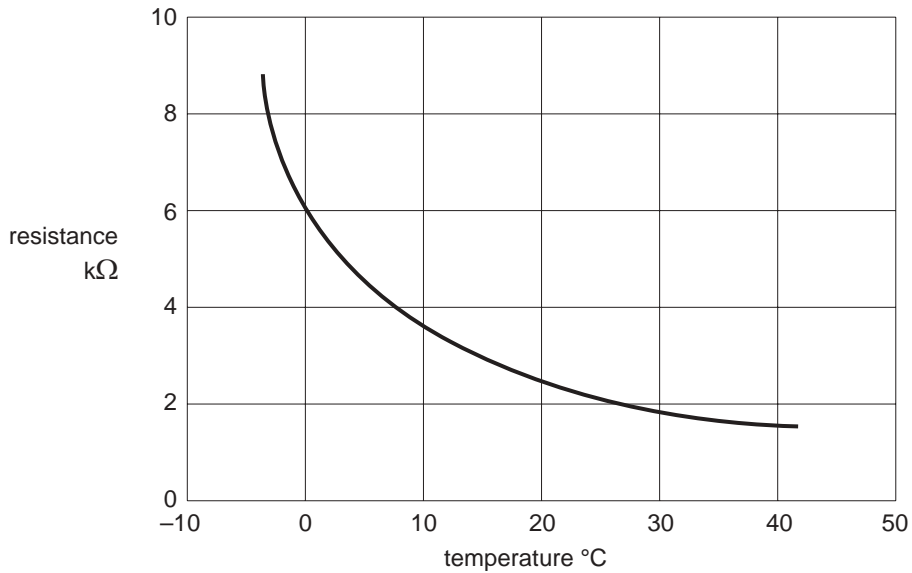
- A. 0 V
- B. 6 V
- C. 7 V
- D. 8 V

**SECTION B**

**Instructions for Section B**

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.  
 State all formulas and calculations.  
 All units must be specified in the answers.

**Question 1**



**Figure 4**

The resistance–temperature characteristic of a thermistor is displayed in Figure 4.

- a.** Use the graphical data in Figure 4 to determine the resistance of the thermistor at a temperature of 25°C.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

- b.** At what temperature is the resistance of this thermistor 4 kΩ?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

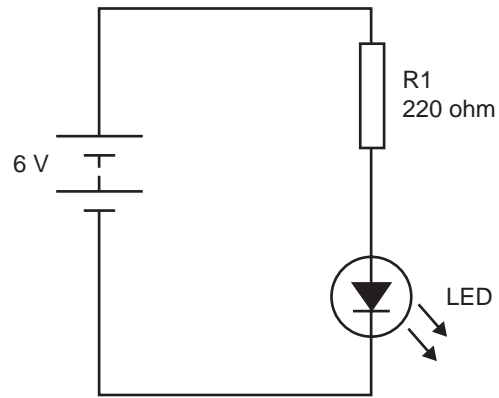
- c.** What effect does a rise in temperature have on the resistance of the thermistor?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

- d.** State an application of a thermistor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark



**Question 2****Figure 5**

Refer to the circuit in Figure 5.

- a. The voltage across the LED is 1.8 V. Calculate the LED current. Show your calculations.

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3 marks

- b. What is the purpose of the resistor, R1, in this circuit?

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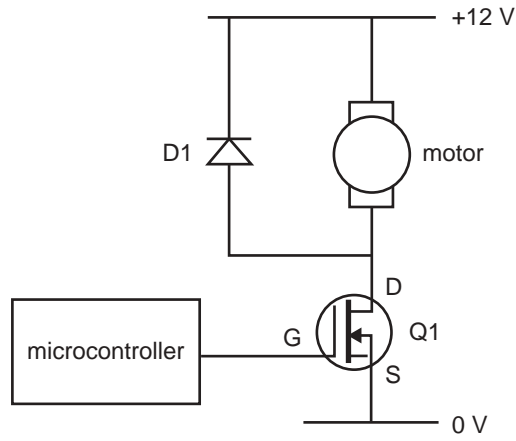


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1 mark



**Figure 6**

Refer to Figure 6 above.

The transistor, Q1, conducts a motor current of 2.1 amp. The voltage drop ( $V_{DS}$ ) across the transistor is 0.1 volt.

- c. Calculate the motor resistance. Show your calculations.

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3 marks

- d. State the purpose of the diode, D1, in Figure 6.

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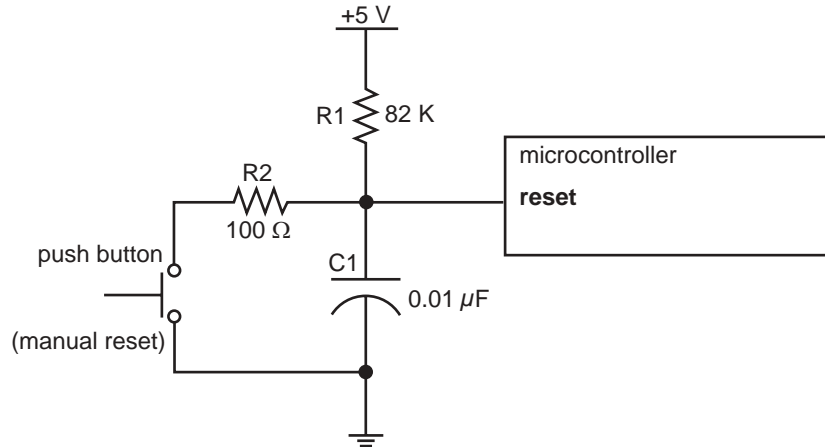
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2 marks

**Question 3**

The circuit shown in Figure 7 is used to reset a microcontroller when power is applied. The push button is pressed and released when manual reset is required.

**Figure 7**

- a. What is the maximum voltage to which the capacitor, C1, can charge?

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1 mark

- b. Calculate the charging time-constant.

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2 marks

- c. On manual reset (push button is pushed), calculate the time taken for the capacitor, C1, to become fully discharged.

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4 marks

**Question 4**

a. State an application for a lithium battery.

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1 mark

b. List **two** advantages of a lithium battery over a carbon zinc battery for the application you stated above.

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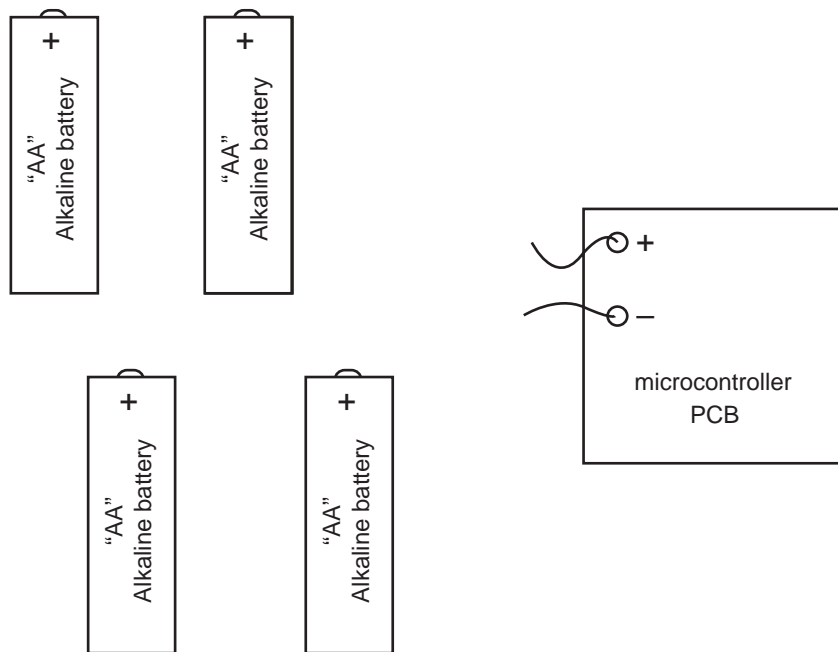
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2 marks

c. A microcontroller circuit requires a supply of 6.0 volts. Draw the appropriate connections between the cells and the microcontroller PCB on Figure 8.



**Figure 8**

4 marks

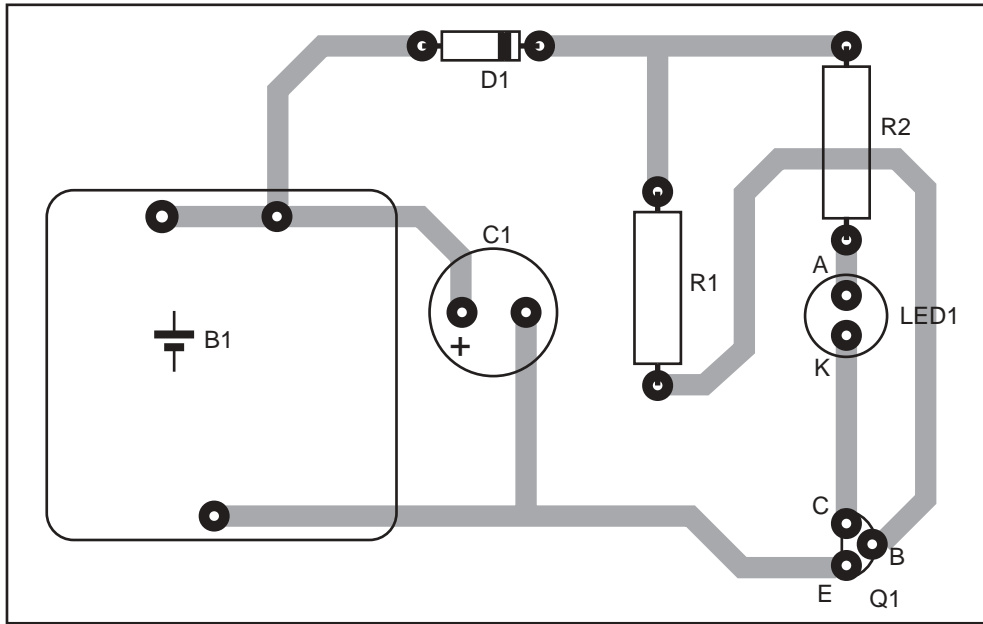
d. A Ni-MH battery pack is getting hot. State a possible cause of this condition.

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1 mark

**Question 5**



**Figure 9**

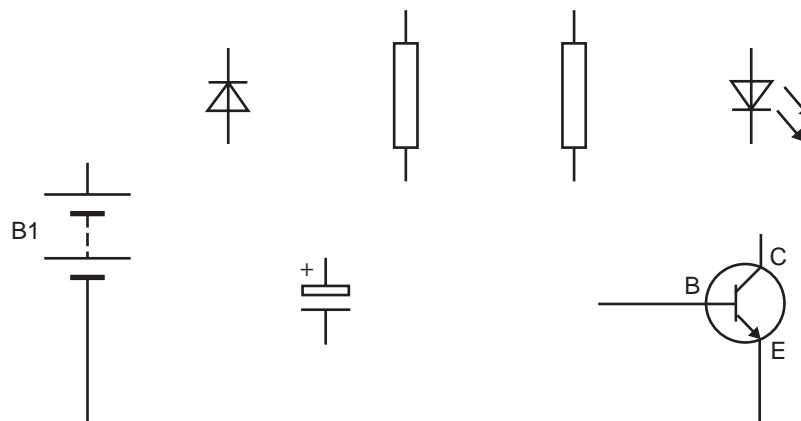
A printed circuit board layout is shown in Figure 9. The layout shows the component-side view.

- a. State the device name of each component in the table below. B1 has been completed.

Component	Device name
B1	Battery
C1	
D1	
LED1	
R1/R2	
Q1	

5 marks

- b. Complete the schematic diagram for the circuit board on Figure 10 below. Label each component: C1, D1 and so on.



**Figure 10**

5 marks

c. State one item of safety equipment that should be used when soldering.

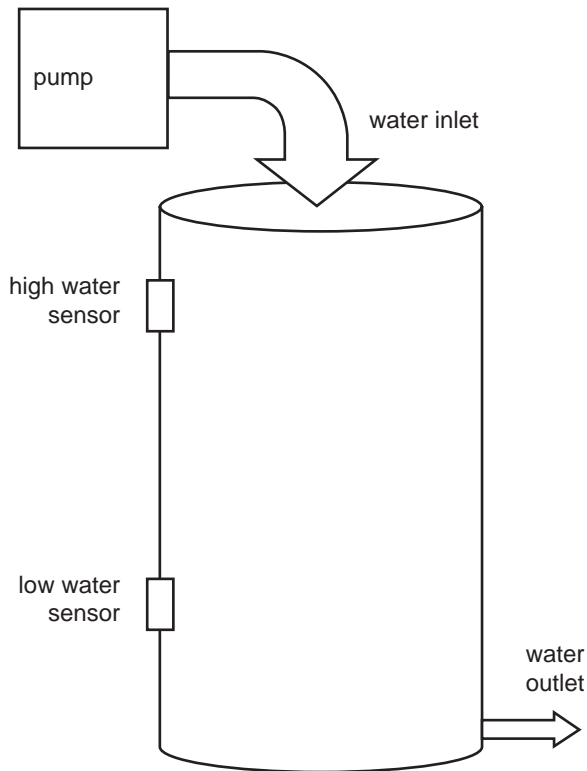
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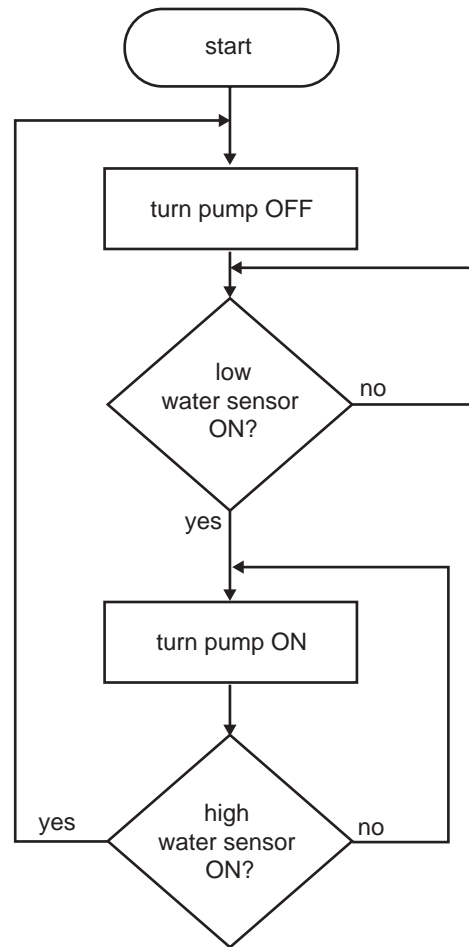
1 mark

**Question 6**

A system for maintaining water in a tank is shown in Figure 11a below. A flow chart to describe the operating sequence is shown in Figure 11b.



**Figure 11a**



**Figure 11b**

a. When the **low water sensor** is ON and the **high water sensor** is OFF, explain what is happening in the system.

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2 marks

- b. Describe the sequence of events after the **high water sensor** switches ON until the time the tank recommences filling.

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3 marks

- c. Describe the effect on the system if a fault develops such that the **high water sensor** and the **low water sensor** are ON at the same time.

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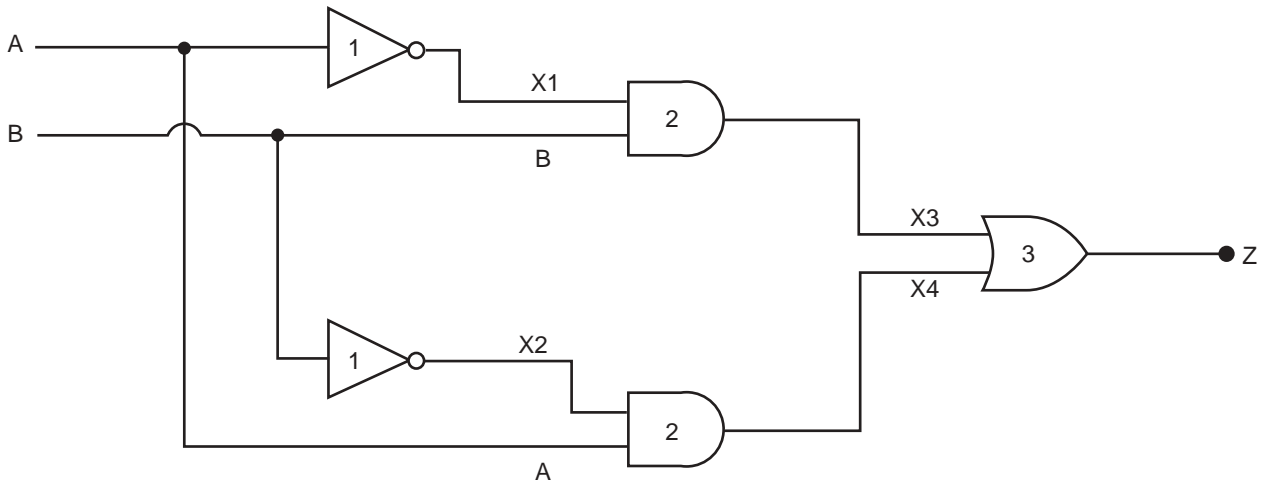
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2 marks

**Question 7**

A and B are inputs and Z is the output for the circuit shown in Figure 12.



**Figure 12**

a. Name the **three** types of gates shown in Figure 12.

Gate 1	
Gate 2	
Gate 3	

3 marks

b. Complete the truth table below for the circuit in Figure 12.

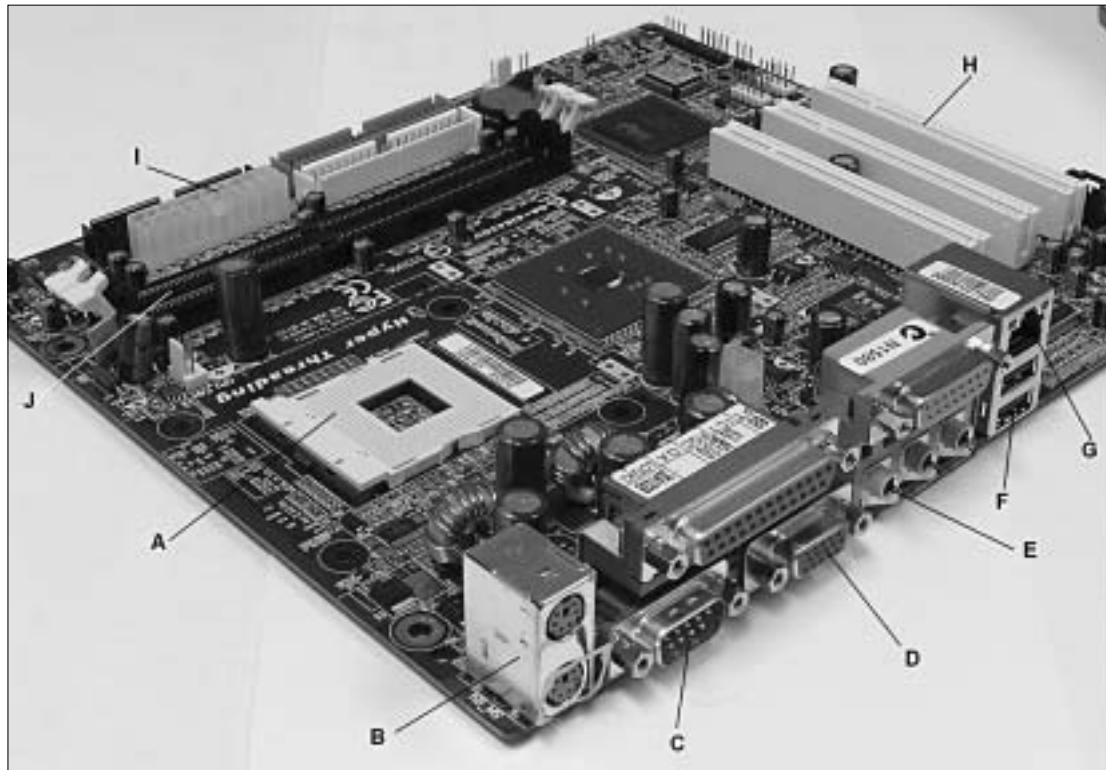
A	B	X1	X2	X3	X4	Z
0	0		1	0		0
0	1	1	0	1		1
1	0	0		0	1	
1	1	0	0	0	0	0

5 marks



**Question 8**

The system board of a personal computer is shown below in Figure 13.



**Figure 13**

The CPU is to be inserted at location **A** on the system board.

- a. What is the name of component **A**?

1 mark

- b. Name the peripheral devices that can be plugged into socket **B**.

2 marks

- c. State the connector into which a network cable can be connected.

1 mark

- d. Name a device that can be connected to location **F**.

1 mark

- e. At which location can a PCI card be installed?

1 mark

- f. What plugs into connector **I**?

1 mark

**SECTION B – continued**  
**TURN OVER**

**Question 9**

ASCII code chart

Least significant nibble

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	
Most significant nibble	0	NUL	SOH	STX	ETX	EOT	ENQ	ACK	BEL	BS	HT	LF	VT	FF	CR	SO	SI
	1	DLE	DC1	DC2	DC3	DC4	NAK	SYN	ETB	CAN	EM	SUB	ESC	FS	GS	RS	US
	2	SP	!	"	#	\$	%	&	'	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/
	3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
	4	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	5	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	[	\	]	^	_
	6	`	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
	7	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	{		}	~	DEL

**Figure 14**

A microcontroller system is sending a block of data to a remote computer in ASCII code format.

- a. Convert the data shown in the table to ASCII. Refer to the ASCII code chart (Figure 14) above. Write your answers in the spaces below.

<b>Characters</b>	SOH	G	5	d	EOT
<b>ASCII (in Hex)</b>					

5 marks

A small business network consists of numerous personal computers, a file server and a web server. It is critical that the file server remains operational at all times even in the event of a power failure.

- b. What system could you install to ensure the server continues to function during a power failure?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

In a personal computer the sound card can be used to convert audio (speech) to binary data which can then be stored on a hard drive.

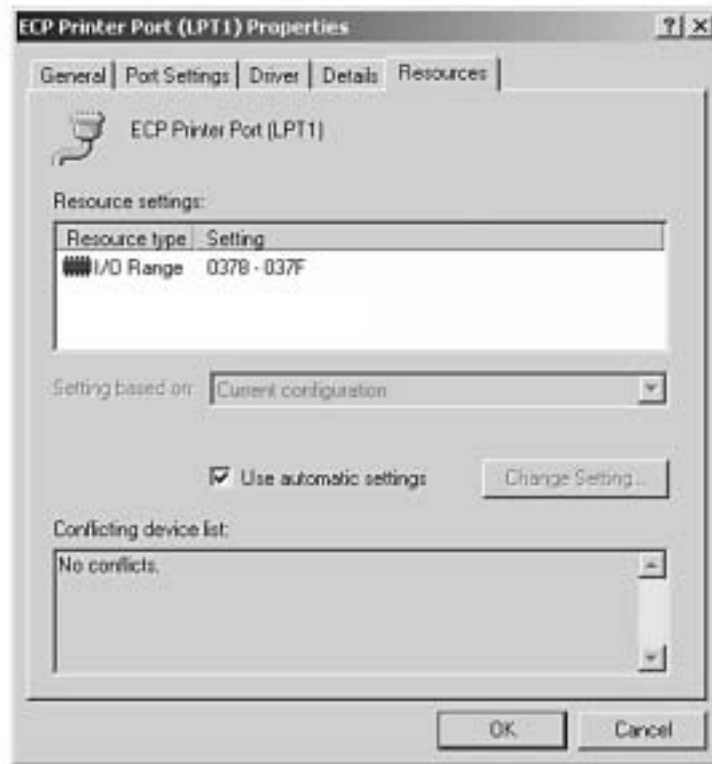
- c. What type of conversion is performed by the sound card?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

**Question 10**

Figure 15 shows the properties of the ECP Printer Port (LPT1) on a PC. This printer port is also known as a parallel port.



**Figure 15**

- a. State and explain one advantage of using a parallel port compared with using a serial port.

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2 marks

- b. State and explain one disadvantage of using a parallel port compared with using a serial port.

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2 marks

Refer to Figure 15.

The Input/Output (I/O) Range of the printer port is listed in hexadecimal form.

c. How many I/O locations are reserved for the printer port?

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2 marks

d. Express the port address 0378H as a binary number.

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2 marks

e. State the decimal value of the number 0378H.

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2 marks

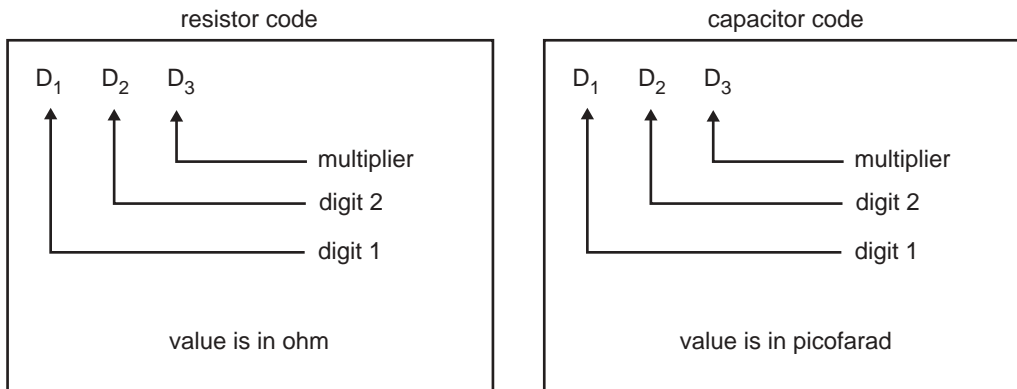
f. Name **two** types of interfaces that may be found in printers.

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2 marks

## Formula sheet



$$V = I \times R$$

$$P = V \times I$$

$$Q = CV$$

$$V_{PK} = \sqrt{2} \times V_{RMS}$$

$$V_{REG} = V_{IN} - V_{OUT}$$

$$\text{Time constant } \tau = RC$$

$$\text{Time constant } \tau = \frac{L}{R}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

$$\text{Turns ratio} = \frac{N1}{N2}$$