

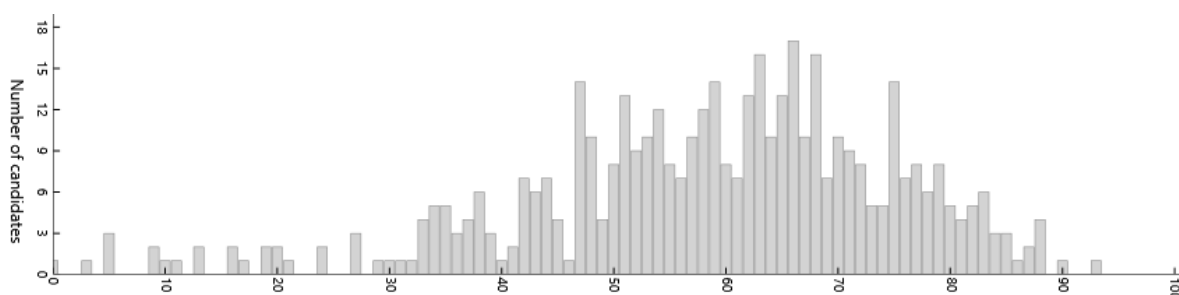


Summary report of the 2022 ATAR course examination report: Computer Science

| Year | Number who sat | Number of absentees |
|------|----------------|---------------------|
| 2022 | 449 | 22 |
| 2021 | 420 | 13 |
| 2020 | 428 | 10 |
| 2019 | 410 | 6 |

The number of candidates sitting and the number attempting each section of the examination can differ as a result of non-attempts across sections of the examination.

Examination score distribution–Written



Summary

The examination paper consisted of two sections. Section One: Short answer and Section Two: Extended answer. The overall mean was 58.29%, slightly lower than 2021. The syllabus was broadly examined and provided opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their application of both knowledge and skills.

Attempted by 448 candidates Mean 58.29% Max 92.86% Min 0.00%

Section means were:

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| Section One: Short answer | Mean 57.27% | | |
| Attempted by 448 candidates | Mean 22.91(/40) | Max 39.29 | Min 0.00 |
| Section Two: Extended answer | Mean 58.97% | | |
| Attempted by 448 candidates | Mean 35.38(/60) | Max 54.55 | Min 0.00 |

General comments

The examination provided several challenging questions that enabled a broad level of differentiation between candidates. Questions were asked that required candidates to demonstrate in-depth knowledge and the application of skills. The candidates were able to complete the examination in the allotted time. Overall, the feedback of the examination indicated it was a balanced paper.

Advice for candidates

- Read each question carefully and focus your response to address the requirements the question posed.
- Use the allocated marks in questions as a guide to the breadth and depth of your response.
- Become familiar with all the syllabus content.

- Ensure that all parts of the questions are addressed in your response, and where required, provide full justifications.
- Engage with the examination materials of previous years to understand the mark allocation of questions; practise answering questions to become familiar with the suggested answers and criteria in the marking keys.
- Be familiar with the verbs used in questions and answer accordingly as many questions require in-depth answers.
- Read the case study/s carefully to ensure that you identify the requirements in questions for Section Two.

Advice for teachers

- Ensure that students are familiar with all aspects of the syllabus, including the application of knowledge and skills in foreign scenarios.
- Provide students with multiple opportunities to apply the range of skills required in the syllabus. This includes practise of drawing network diagrams, Chen's notation entity relationship (ER) diagrams as well as data flow diagrams (DFD's).
- Ensure students recognise a range of verbs such as list, outline, describe, explain, discuss and annotate, and that they practise writing relevant responses to questions containing these verbs. Refer to the *Glossary of key words in the formulation of questions* on the course page.
- Discuss the mark allocation of questions. Provide students with guidance on how to respond to different types of questions and advise them of how the marking keys apply so they may become familiar with marking expectations.
- Ensure that students are given the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of the syllabus.
- Provide extensive opportunities for students to practise the different concepts, including programming.

Comments on specific sections and questions

Section One: Short answer (113 Marks)

This section proved a little challenging for the candidates with a mean of 57.25%, slightly lower than 2021. There were several questions poorly answered that were asking for in-depth answers in both knowledge and the application of skills. The full range of marks were awarded for all questions.

Section Two: Extended answer (154 Marks)

The mean score of this section was lower than the 2021 examination paper. The context diagram and Level 0 data flow diagram (DFD) questions were answered well, however, the Level 1 DFD was answered poorly. Candidates were able to complete the Chen's notation entity relationship (ER) diagram very well; however, concepts such as validation rules were not answered well.