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# **GCE A LEVEL EXAMINERS' REPORTS**

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## **COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL**

**AUTUMN 2020**

Grade boundary information for this subject is available on the WJEC public website at:  
<https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/MarkToUMS/default.aspx?l=en>

### **Online Results Analysis**

WJEC provides information to examination centres via the WJEC secure website. This is restricted to centre staff only. Access is granted to centre staff by the Examinations Officer at the centre.

### **Annual Statistical Report**

The annual Statistical Report (issued in the second half of the Autumn Term) gives overall outcomes of all examinations administered by WJEC.

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# **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

## **GCE A LEVEL**

**Autumn 2020**

### **Component 1: Programming and System Development**

#### **General Comments**

Several candidates provided knowledgeable responses to a range of topics in the specifications. There were particularly good responses to some topics including Boolean algebra, truth tables and Backus–Naur form (BNF). These candidates were well prepared and demonstrated a high standard of knowledge and application required for A2.

Although the significant majority of questions were attempted there was a wide range of responses given. Several responses were limited and lacked sufficient the depth of knowledge and application required for A2. Topics in this area included evaluating the space and time complexity of given algorithms and object orientated programming concepts.

Candidates should ensure they can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of recursive and non-recursive algorithms including the strengths and limitations of each and ensure they are able to apply their knowledge of methods of binary tree traversal using suitable examples.

# **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

## **GCE A LEVEL**

**Autumn 2020**

### **Component 2 Computer, Architecture, Data, Communication and Applications**

#### **General Comments**

Several candidates were well prepared and demonstrated a wide knowledge of the topics in the specification. Good answers were seen for questions requiring precise answers to programming or mathematical problems.

In descriptive questions, candidates sometimes provided answers which were correct in general terms but lacked sufficient detail to gain high marks. Where appropriate, descriptions can be supported, and credit gained, by referencing specific examples of computing applications.

Some particularly good answers on database design and networking costs were given and most candidates demonstrated a reasonable understanding of the concepts of data mining and predictive analytics.

Some candidates were unclear on the roles of transaction and master files in batch processing and the suitability of hashing algorithms was an area that caused further difficulties.



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