

ENTRY LEVEL

Moderators' report

COMPUTER SCIENCE

R354

For first teaching in 2015

R354/01/02 Summer 2022 series

Contents

Introduction	3
General overview/Introduction	4
Most common causes of centres not passing.....	5
Common misconceptions	5
Avoiding potential malpractice.....	5
Additional comments.....	6

Introduction

Our moderators' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on centre's assessment of moderated work, based on what has been observed by our moderation team. These reports include a general commentary of accuracy of internal assessment judgements; identify good practice in relation to evidence collation and presentation and comments on the quality of centre assessment decisions against individual Learning Objectives. This report also highlights areas where requirements have been misinterpreted and provides guidance to centre assessors on requirements for accessing higher mark bands. Where appropriate, the report will also signpost to other sources of information that centre assessors will find helpful.

OCR completes moderation of centre-assessed work to quality assure the internal assessment judgements made by assessors within a centre. Where OCR cannot confirm the centre's marks, we may adjust them to align them to the national standard. Any adjustments to centre marks are detailed on the Moderation Adjustments report, which can be downloaded from Interchange when results are issued. Centres should also refer to their individual centre report provided after moderation has been completed. In combination, these centre-specific documents and this overall report should help to support centres' internal assessment and moderation practice for future series.

Advance Information for Summer 2022 assessments

To support student revision, advance information was published about the focus of exams for Summer 2022 assessments. Advance information was available for most GCSE, AS and A Level subjects, Core Maths, FSMQ, and Cambridge Nationals Information Technologies. You can find more information on our [website](#).

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General overview/Introduction

This was the first series where all centres were required to submit work on R354 with no entries for R343.

The qualification comprises of two parts: a project and examinations. The majority of centres submitted the correct combination of papers, e.g., CS1 and CS2 **or** CS3 and CS4.

The project **must** be one of the three provided. Evidence of the design, development and testing must be provided for moderation if marks are given for each section.

Centres should complete the mark sheet for the project by explaining the marking band given and why the selected mark was given. This is best practice. The mark sheet must include identification of any help given to candidates. The mark sheet must reflect how and where marks were reduced due to the help given.

Many centres sent the exam papers as hardcopy. Projects should be submitted electronically, either through the repository or on USB. CDs and DVDs are not recommended for submission. The repository is preferable for all forms of work.

Candidates who did well generally did the following:	Candidates who did less well generally did the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provided evidence of the development of their program, for example how they produced it, the stages they worked through, the problems encountered • created multiple smaller flowcharts for separate parts of the program • used multiple forms of data to present their work, including presentations, word processed documents and videos. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provided the final code for their program without supporting evidence of the development • did not provide any evidence of testing their solution • repeated the statements in the project instructions instead of breaking these down further or amending into success criteria.

Most common causes of centres not passing

Some centres gave marks for the project component without submitting evidence of the candidate's work. Some centres only provided a final program file that did not include the design, development, or testing.

The development stage is the narrative of the development, for example which part was created first, how this was testing, what came next, etc. High marks were often given where there was no supportive evidence for this. Instead, the candidates had included comments to describe their solution, but not how they created it.

Testing was often limited. Candidates provided a small number of tests and provided a limited testing evidence. Testing does not need to be presented in a table. It could be a video showing candidates running their program through all paths with an audio narrative or accompanying description of what is being tested.

Common misconceptions

Development is more than the final product; it is how they created their solution.

Evidence can be electronic and can comprise of presentations, videos and audio recordings where candidates find these easier to express their work.

Avoiding potential malpractice

Centres need to make sure they are submitting the correct combination of papers.

Candidates can take all 8 exam papers. However the final marks **must** come from the correct pairings; Paper 1 and 2, or Paper 3 and 4.

CS and CTAP exams can be different combinations:

For component 1: CS1 and CS2 **or** CS3 and CS4 For component 2: CTAP1 and CTAP2 **or** CTAP3 and CTAP4.

This gives the following valid combinations:

Option	CS1	CS2	CS3	CS4	CTAP1	CTAP2	CTAP3	CTAP4
1	✓	✓			✓	✓		
2	✓	✓					✓	✓
3			✓	✓	✓	✓		
4			✓	✓			✓	✓

The projects need to be selected from the three provided. Candidates can tailor elements of these to their own needs, for example their own stories, but the requirements are fundamental.

Additional comments

Centres must submit all evidence for moderation when requested. This consists of the correct pairs of examination papers (for CS and CTAP units) and also the project. A completed mark sheet must also be submitted. The mark sheet must contain comments explaining the marks for the projects.

An electronic marksheet is available from the OCR website that will automatically calculate the final mark, this can help reduce the number of clerical errors that occur when manually calculating the mark for each candidate.

Centres should note that the Specification states that "No paper-based sample of work will be accepted for this qualification. Exam scripts should be scanned and send to the moderator digitally if using postal moderation.

Supporting you

Post-results services

If any of your students' results are not as expected, you may wish to consider one of our post-results services. For full information about the options available visit the [OCR website](#).

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