

ACS 1803

Midterm Study Questions

1. What are the elements of an information system? List and explain
2. List and explain the characteristics of Valuable information
3. What are the main advantages of the Database approach over the file approach?
4. What is a character, a field, a record, a file? Give examples from student data.
5. Why is it not a good idea to put all of an organization's data fields into one giant table (having, say, 5000 fields)? Be specific in your answer. Provide an appropriate example.
6. Explain the concept of a "Relational Database"
7. How are Relational Databases modelled? What type of diagram is used?
8. What is a database management system (dbms)?
9. When we say a Database is "Normalized", what are we referring to?
10. What is a query language? What is SQL?
11. What is a database management system (dbms)? What does it do? (List its main functions)
12. What are two types of output that a dbms such as Access can provide?
13. What is the relationship between an information system, a database management system and a database? Explain clearly.
14. Explain clearly what is meant by i) using Access directly, as a dbms, to get desired output and ii) using Access indirectly, through an information system, to get desired output?
15. The main way in which computers help business organizations is through information systems". Explain this statement, with an appropriate example.
16. What is a data warehouse? For what purpose would it be used?
17. What is a data mart?
18. Explain Big Data with your own words, and what the main concerns are around that concept.
19. What are data entities? What are attributes? Give examples.

20. What is an entity-relationship diagram? Sketch an example
21. What activities make up i) the revenue cycle and ii) the expenditure cycle of an Accounting Information System (AIS)?
 - a. Identify the main transactions that would be part of the revenue cycle of an organization
 - b. Identify the main transactions that are part of the expenditure cycle of the organization
22. Explain the main functions of senior managers, middle managers, and operational managers.
23. What type of information system is used at each level of the organization? Explain.
24. What are the main functions of a TPS? Provide examples of TPS used in organizations.
25. What is the difference between online processing and batch processing?
26. Explain the nature of Managerial Work with regard to the two main activities managers perform: Planning and Controlling.
27. How does decision-making for a Strategic-Level Manager Differ from Decision-Making for a tactical manager?
28. Explain with examples the main functions tactical (MIS) and strategic systems (ESS)
29. List four characteristics of operational information systems (transaction processing systems – TPS). By whom are operational systems usually used in an organization?
30. List Four different types of reports that can be produced by MIS. Explain.
31. What is a KPI? At which managerial level are KPI normally used?
32. Explain the concept of a Dashboard Report. Why is it useful?
33. Where are most of the raw data used for tactical systems usually captured?
34. Provide a description of the characteristics of information used at each the Operational, Tactical and ~~managerial~~ Executive level.
35. What is the purpose of the General Ledger system?
36. Explain clearly: chart of accounts, debit/credit, general ledger, balance sheet, income statement.

37. What is the difference between installing and initializing a purchased accounting software package?
38. What main steps are involved in initializing an accounting system?
39. Provide examples of HR Information systems.
40. What are the main functional areas of a large manufacturing organization?
41. What are some of the main characteristics of information in the HR Area?
42. Provide examples of Information systems used in the marketing area.
43. What is a CRM System? In what functional Area is a CRM system used?
44. What is the difference between Operational and Analytical CRM?
45. List the benefits for an organization in using CRM systems.