A total of 18 candidates sat this exam which required answers to two of the four questions that were set. The average mark obtained was 58%.

Q1 was answered by 8 candidates with an average mark of 10 out of 20. Marks were mostly lost because candidates did not get to the heart of the questions set. For example, few candidates drew diagrams for part a), showing how the data in the given code fragment is accessed as the loop iterations are executed. This made it difficult to analyse the parallel implementations accurately.

Q2 was answered by 16 candidates, making it the most popular question, with an average mark of 10.94 out of 20. Marks were mainly lost due to inaccuracies of analysis. For example, many candidates stated that the overhead for non-parallel code is $T_{ser}$, the time to execute the non-parallelised code, whereas this should be $T_{ser} \cdot (p-1)/p$ according to Amdahl's Law. Since many candidates who did this also answered Q3 part c) correctly, thereby demonstrating that they knew what Amdahl's Law implies, this was an odd mistake to make. Similarly, most candidates showed that the scheduling and synchronisation overheads increased linearly with the number of threads, whereas the overhead is defined as being the average per thread, which was given as constant. These mistakes led candidates to make incorrect calculations about the other sources of overhead that were the main subject of the question.

Q3 was answered by 10 candidates with an average mark of 12.90 out of 20. Mostly this question was well addressed for all parts. The main reason marks were lost was due to overlooking important detail.

Only two candidates attempted Q4, but both scored 16 out of 20, so this was by far the best answered question.