Q1. This proved to be a very easy question, with an average mark close to 70%. No significant systematic misunderstanding was evident.

Q2. This proved to be a somewhat hard question, with an average mark of 56%. No significant systematics misunderstanding was evident. Parts (a) and (b) were the hardest.

Q3. Another very easy question, with an average mark close to 73%. Again, no systematic misunderstandings.

Q4. This proved to be a slightly easy question, with an average mark of around 67%. The hardest part was (a), where a number of students failed to mention the need for (typically inefficient) self-joins.

Q5. This turned out to be an extremely hard question, with most students failing to get marks at all. The first part was a recall question, and therefore one possible reason for the poor performance is lack of revision. The second part consisted of applying one taught technique. Most students were unable to recall the techniques, let alone apply it.

Overall, the average mark for the whole exam was somewhat low, at 56.57, due to the significant negative impact of the widespread, extremely poor performance in Q5.