COMP33812 Examination Performance Feedback
2017–2018

The fact that majority of students chose not to attend lectures was very evident in answers given in the examination.

Question 1
a) The question was looking for three reasons why software would have to change. Generally this as well answered, the exception was whose who suggested refactoring was a reason; there is no direct commercial payback from refactoring.

b) Looking for the fact that allows existing/new components to operate without modification but at the cost of developing complex gateways which are not part of the final solution. This was often answered well, but some answers lacked clarity.

c) Looking for a forward migration solution (anything else is too risky) with an argument based on commercial reason for the order in which the components show in the architecture are migrated/developed. Some answers were good, however many gave generic answers that did not address the example used in the question or fail to give commercial reasons for the order suggested.

d) The question was looking for a description of the complex approval/development process that exists in a commercial organisation. A significant number of answers only discussed the more simplified process that exists in small projects.

Question 2
a) Generally well answered.

b) i. The key goal for the change was to increase profit by selling more items in each customer's order. Hence, the key metric and the metric of interest needed to directly reflect this. Many of the answers did not relate to the key goal. In particular, checking out would not measure the change as the number of checkouts would be expected to be the same.

ii. The question was looking for the values to be used in identifying how long the tests would take with a level of sample suggested by you. With the industry standard level of 1% sample the 100 days would be too long. Thus, it was expected that the need for a higher level of sampling would be identified along with the risks of doing this. Many answers failed to use the numbers from the question.

c) Looking for the fact that A/B testing is acceptable testing and C/D is about deception. A significant number of answers did not identify the unethical nature of C/D testing.

d) The question was looking for problems associated with reusing software. General answers were reasonable, but they lack a depth of consideration.

Question 3
a) Standards relate to both coding and development/texting processes. Some answers did not reflect the breadth of things to which standards apply.

b) Reasonably well answered.

c) The question was looking for an indication of the breadth of things that code review can help to improve. A significant number of answers failed to show the breadth of affected things.

d) Looking for identification of metrics related to quality and justifications for them. Generally well answered.

e) This question was looking for your impression of material presented in the lectures. Most answers were reasonable, but they lacked a breadth of discussion.