UNIT test 1.7
#software

1)   Describe the role of an operating system [3]
manages and monitors all system processes[1] without one the computer would not function[1] Allows the hardware to communicate with the software [1]

2)   Identify two ways in which the operating system will manage the processor [2]
Decide what to process next [1] Handle interruptions [1]

3)   Describe two elements of the WIMP interface commonly used in most operating systems [4]
Window – resizable work spaces, Icons – images that represent files and programs, Menus – list of categorised, logical, selectable items, Pointers – the mouse input representation on the screen for navigation

4)   Identify what the term "multitasking" means in the context of a computer system [1]
To be able to do more than one task/job at once

5)   Describe the term "driver" [2]
A piece of software that enables the operating system to fully and correctly use a piece of hardware , acts as a translator.

6)   Describe the term encryption [2]
Scramble original data so that it makes no sense if intercepted. Requires the cipher key in order to unscramble it

7)   Describe the utility known as the disk defragmenter [2]
Organises files on a hard disk back in to contiguous clusters. This speeds up read speeds.

8)   Justify one reason for using a compression package [2]
Storage requirements – compression will reduce the size of files meaning that less space is required to hold them

9)   Explain the difference between a full backup and an incremental one [3]
Full – every file is backed up – takes time and a lot of space – good for set checkpoint in off peak times
Incremental – only new and modified files since last backup are backed up – good for day to day changes of the data being secured safely