MODULE B MEMORY AND STORAGE · B3

# Why computers need secondary storage

Original practice questions · ~25 minutes · 20 marks · Cambridge 0478 syllabus 3.3.2

Name _____ Date _____

**Instructions.** Answer all questions in the spaces provided. The marks for each part are shown in brackets [ ]. The total for this worksheet is **20 marks**.

## 1

**Total: 4 marks**

A town library has a self-service kiosk. Members scan their card and books to borrow them. The kiosk stores its software and a log of every loan.

Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each item in the kiosk is primary storage or secondary storage. **[4]**

| Item | Primary storage | Secondary storage |
|---|---|---|
| Hard disk drive (HDD) | | |
| Random access memory (RAM) | | |
| Solid state drive (SSD) | | |
| Read only memory (ROM) | | |

**2** **Total: 4 marks**

Complete the sentences about secondary storage. **[4]**

Secondary storage is not ..... accessed by the CPU. Data and programs must first be loaded into ..... before the CPU can use them. Secondary storage is ..... , so data is not lost when the power is turned off. This means it is necessary for the more ..... storage of data.

**3** **Total: 5 marks**

The library kiosk is switched off every night and switched on every morning.

**(a)** Explain why the kiosk needs secondary storage. **[2]**

**(b)** Describe how the kiosk's loans software gets from secondary storage to being run by the CPU when the kiosk is switched on. **[3]**

**4** **Total: 4 marks**

Describe **two** differences between primary storage and secondary storage. **[4]**

1

2

**5** **Total: 3 marks**

A sound engineer is editing a recording on a laptop. The laptop battery runs out before the engineer saves the latest edits. A version saved an hour earlier is on the laptop's solid state drive.

Explain which version of the recording will be available when the laptop is restarted. **[3]**

**Total for this worksheet: 20 marks**