MODULE H SOFTWARE · H4

Peripheral management, drivers and the user interface

Original practice questions · 21 marks · ~25 minutes · Cambridge 0478 syllabus 4.1.2

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions. Answer all questions in the spaces provided. The marks for each part are shown in brackets [ ]. Do not give brand names of software or hardware. The total for this worksheet is **21 marks**.

1

Total: 4 marks

A warehouse packs parcels for online orders. Each packing station has a computer with a touch screen, a barcode scanner and a label printer. Stock-control software runs on each computer.

(a) Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false. **[4]**

Statement	True	False
The barcode scanner is a peripheral.		
A device driver is part of the stock-control software.		
A new model of label printer can always use the device driver written for the old model.		
The operating system uses device drivers to communicate with the peripherals.		

2 **Total: 5 marks**

Managing peripherals and drivers is one function of the operating system.

(a) Describe what is meant by a device driver. **[2]**

(b) The warehouse replaces the label printer at one packing station with a different model of label printer. **[2]**
Explain why the computer at that packing station needs a new device driver.

(c) Give **one** reason why the warehouse should install an updated version of a device driver when one is released. **[1]**

3 **Total: 3 marks**

A packer scans the barcode on a parcel. The stock-control software records that the parcel has been packed.

(a) Describe how the operating system manages the barcode scanner when the barcode is scanned. **[3]**

4 Total: 4 marks

Providing an interface is another function of the operating system. Packers use the touch screen at each packing station.

(a) Describe the role of the operating system in providing an interface. **[2]**

(b) Give **two** examples of information the interface could display to a packer at a packing station. **[2]**

1 .....

2 .....

5 Total: 5 marks

A new label printer is connected to a packing station computer for the first time. A packer then chooses to print a label for a parcel.

(a) Describe how the operating system manages the new label printer, from when it is connected until the label is printed. **[5]**

Total for this worksheet: 21 marks