

COMPETISHUN

REVIEWED EDITION

CBSE CLASS X — COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (CODE 165)

Sample Question Paper (Theory) with Marking Scheme

Academic Session 2026-27

Time Allowed: 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 50

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) This Question Paper has 5 Sections A-E.
- 2) All Questions are compulsory. However, internal choices have been provided in some of the questions.
- 3) Section A has 12 questions carrying 01 mark each.
- 4) Section B has 7 questions carrying 02 marks each.
- 5) Section C has 4 questions carrying 03 marks each.
- 6) Section D has 1 question carrying 04 marks.
- 7) Section E has 2 Source based /Case-based /Passage based Questions carrying 04 marks each.

ABOUT THIS EDITION

Each question below is followed by the Answer, a Solution / Explanation where it is useful, and the verified Marking Scheme. Both alternatives of every internal choice are solved in full, for teacher and self-study reference.

Wherever this edition departs from the officially released marking scheme, the change is shown as a clearly labelled Editorial note. Such notes are Competishun editorial recommendations and are not official CBSE guidance. A separate correction log accompanies this file.

SOURCE REFERENCES

- CBSE, Sample Question Paper (Theory), Computer Applications (Code 165), Class X, 2026-27 — cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/SQP/ClassX_2026_27/ComputerApplication-SQP.pdf
- CBSE, Marking Scheme, Computer Applications (Code 165), Class X, 2026-27 — cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/SQP/ClassX_2026_27/ComputerApplication-MS.pdf
- CBSE, Marking Scheme, Computer Applications (Code 165), Class X, 2025-26 — consulted for precedent on Q25(I).

Note: There is no change in the Question Paper Design and Assessment Pattern for Academic Session 2026-27.

SECTION A (Q1 to Q12) 12 x 1 = 12 Marks

Question 1

[1 Mark]

Which of the following is responsible for requesting a web page from a web server?

- A. Web Browser
- B. Web Page
- C. HTML
- D. SMTP

ANSWER

A. Web Browser

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The web browser is the client software that sends the request to the web server and then displays the page it receives. A web page is the resource being requested, HTML is the language in which the page is written, and SMTP is a mail protocol.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 2**[1 Mark]**

Identify the protocol that provides a secure, encrypted channel for remote login over an insecure network.

- A. TELNET
- B. SSH
- C. HTTP
- D. TCP

ANSWER

B. SSH

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

SSH (Secure Shell) encrypts the entire remote-login session. TELNET performs the same task but transmits data, including passwords, as plain text. HTTP is used for web pages and TCP is a transport-layer protocol, not a login protocol.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 3**[1 Mark]**

Which internet service allows users to participate in real-time text-based communication?

- A. E-learning
- B. Chat
- C. E-Groups
- D. News groups

ANSWER

B. Chat

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Chat is a synchronous (real-time) service: messages typed by one user appear instantly to the other. E-learning, e-groups and newsgroups are not real-time text conversations.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 4**[1 Mark]**

Which attribute of the tag is used to specify the path of the image to be displayed?

- A. href
- B. src
- C. link
- D. source

ANSWER

B. src

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The src (source) attribute holds the path or URL of the image file. The href attribute is used with <a> and <link>, not with .

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 5**[1 Mark]**

Anish wants to merge three cells of a single row in an HTML table. Which attribute should he use?

- A. rowspan
- B. colspan
- C. width
- D. align

ANSWER

B. colspan

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Merging cells that lie side by side in one row means merging across columns, which is done with colspan (here, colspan="3"). The rowspan attribute merges cells vertically down a column.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 6**[1 Mark]**

Which of the following is a valid example of a Web Address (URL)?

- A. student@school.com
- B. 192.168.1.1
- C. https://www.ncert.nic.in
- D. C:/Documents/index.html

ANSWER

C. https://www.ncert.nic.in

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

A URL identifies a resource on the web and contains a protocol (scheme) followed by a domain name. Option A is an email address, option B is a bare IP address, and option D is a path to a file stored on a local disk.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 7**[1 Mark]**

The process of transferring a file from our local computer to a remote web server is called:

- A. Downloading
- B. Uploading
- C. Browsing
- D. Retrieving

ANSWER

B. Uploading

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Uploading means sending a file from the local computer to a remote server. The reverse transfer, from the server to the local computer, is downloading.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 8**[1 Mark]**

The set of rules and manners that should be followed while communicating online is known as:

- A. Cyber Crime
- B. Netiquettes
- C. Digital Divide
- D. Software License

ANSWER

B. Netiquettes

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Netiquette (network + etiquette) is the accepted code of polite and responsible behavior on the Internet.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 9**[1 Mark]**

Which of the following refers to the ownership and legal rights over digital assets such as online content, videos, and music?

- A. Netiquettes
- B. Digital Property Rights
- C. Freedom of Information
- D. E-commerce Fraud

ANSWER

B. Digital Property Rights

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Digital property rights are the ownership and legal rights a creator holds over digital assets such as online content, software, videos and music.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 10**[1 Mark]**

State whether the following statement is True or False:

The World Wide Web (WWW) and the Internet are exactly the same thing.

ANSWER

False

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The Internet is the global network of interconnected networks, that is, the underlying infrastructure. The World Wide Web is only one of the services that runs on the Internet; email, FTP and chat are other services. Therefore the two terms are not the same.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Q-11 and Q-12 are Assertion (A) and Reason (R) Type questions. Choose the correct option as:

- A. Both A and R are True, and R correctly explains A.
- B. Both A and R are True, but R does not correctly explain A.
- C. A is True, but R is False.
- D. A is False, but R is True.

Question 11**[1 Mark]**

Assertion (A): A Web Browser is a software application used to access information on the World Wide Web.

Reason (R): Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are examples of web development software.

ANSWER

C. A is True, but R is False.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

- Assertion (A) is True — a web browser is indeed the application used to access and display information on the World Wide Web.
- Reason (R) is False — Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are web browsers, not web development software. (Web development software means tools used to create websites.)

Since A is true and R is false, the correct option is C.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

Question 12**[1 Mark]**

Assertion (A): SMTP is used by the receiver to download emails from the mail server.

Reason (R): POP3 is a protocol designed for retrieving emails from a remote server to a local client.

ANSWER

D. A is False, but R is True.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

- Assertion (A) is False — SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol) is used to send mail from the sender to the mail server; it is not used by the receiver to download mail.
- Reason (R) is True — POP3 (Post Office Protocol version 3) is designed to retrieve/download mail from a remote mail server to the local client.

Since A is false and R is true, the correct option is D.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct answer.

SECTION B (Q13 to Q19) 7 x 2 = 14 Marks**Question 13****[2 Marks]**

Explain the purpose of the vlink and alink attributes used within the <body> tag.

ANSWER

- The vlink (Visited Link) attribute is used to specify the color of a hyperlink that the user has already clicked/visited.
- The alink (Active Link) attribute specifies the color of a link at the exact moment it is being clicked by the user.

```
<body link="blue" vlink="purple" alink="red">
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Both are presentation attributes of the <body> tag that control the color of hyperlinks in different states. (The third related attribute, link, sets the color of an unvisited link.)

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct explanation of vlink.
1 mark for the correct explanation of alink.
(Official wording: 1 mark for each correct part.)

Question 14**[2 Marks]**

A.

A school is developing a digital learning platform where students can submit projects and communicate with teachers online. The school wants to ensure that the system is efficient, reliable, and secure for sending and receiving files. A student is required to send an electronic project report as an email attachment to the teacher.

Based on the given scenario, answer the following questions:

- Identify the protocol used for sending emails and justify your answer with one appropriate reason.

- b. Explain one possible problem that could occur if an unsuitable or insecure protocol is used, and suggest one measure the school can implement to ensure secure email communication.

OR

B.

What do you understand by the term web-address? How is it different from an email address?

ANSWER — OPTION A

a. Protocol used for sending emails: SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol)

Justification (any one):

- SMTP is the standard protocol for sending emails from a sender's client to the recipient's mail server.
- It supports attachments, making it suitable for sending project reports.

b. Possible problem if an unsuitable or insecure protocol is used (any one):

- Emails may fail to send or get delayed.
- Messages could be intercepted or read by unauthorized users if security is weak.

Measure to ensure secure email communication (any one):

- Implement strong authentication for student accounts.
- Educate users to verify recipient email addresses before sending sensitive files.
- Use a secure, encrypted mail channel (SMTP over SSL/TLS, i.e. SMTPS) for transmission.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

SMTP is a "push" protocol: it pushes mail outward from the sender's client to the mail server and onward to the recipient's server. Retrieval at the receiver's end is handled by POP3 or IMAP, so those are not the answer to part (a).

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark — part (a): SMTP correctly identified, with any one acceptable justification.

1 mark — part (b): any one valid problem together with any one valid security measure.

(Official wording: 1 Mark for each correct answer.)

OR — ALTERNATIVE ANSWER

ANSWER — OPTION B

A web address, also called a URL (Uniform Resource Locator), is the unique address used to locate a website or a web page on the World Wide Web — for example, <https://www.ncert.nic.in>

Difference: a web address (URL) is used to locate a website, while an email address is used to send and receive emails — for example, info@school.com

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

A URL identifies the location of a resource and is typed into a browser; an email address identifies a mailbox and is used by mail software. A URL contains a protocol and a domain name, whereas an email address has the form username@domainname.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct definition of web address.

1 mark for the correct difference.

Question 15**[2 Marks]**

What is the significance of the alt attribute in the tag? Provide one scenario where it is useful.

ANSWER

The alt (alternate text) attribute provides a textual description of an image.

Scenario: if an image fails to load (for example, because of a slow or broken internet connection), the text given in the alt attribute is displayed in its place, helping the user understand what the image represents.

```

```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The alt text also makes a page accessible, because screen-reader software reads it aloud for visually impaired users.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for stating the significance of alt (textual description of the image).
1 mark for one correct scenario where it is useful.
(Official wording: 1 mark for each correct part.)

Question 16**[2 Marks]****A.**

Write the HTML code to embed an audio file named song.mp3 into a webpage. Ensure that the audio plays automatically.

OR**B.**

Write the HTML code snippet to create an Ordered List of the top three winners of a competition. However, the list should start numbering from '4' instead of '1'. List items are as shown below
(4. Rahul, 5. Sneha, 6. Amit)

ANSWER — OPTION A

```
<audio src="song.mp3" autoplay controls></audio>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The <audio> tag embeds the sound file, src gives its path, and the autoplay attribute makes playback begin on its own. The controls attribute, which displays play/pause buttons, is optional here.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the <audio> tag.
1 mark for the autoplay attribute.

OR — ALTERNATIVE ANSWER**ANSWER — OPTION B**

```
<ol start="4">  
  <li>Rahul</li>  
  <li>Sneha</li>  
  <li>Amit</li>  
</ol>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The start attribute of sets the number from which the list begins, so start="4" numbers the three items 4, 5 and 6.

MARKING SCHEME

2 marks for the correct code (1 mark for the correct ... structure with the three list items, 1 mark for the start="4" attribute).

(Official wording: 2 marks for correct answer.)

Question 17**[2 Marks]**

How can we create a hyperlink that directly opens the user's email client to send an email to "info@school.com"? Write the syntax.

ANSWER

We can use the mailto scheme within the href attribute of an anchor (<a>) tag.

Syntax:

```
<a href="mailto:info@school.com">Contact Us</a>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

When the link is clicked, the browser hands the address over to the default mail client, which opens a new message already addressed to info@school.com

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for stating the use of the mailto scheme in the href attribute of <a>.

1 mark for the correct syntax.

(Official wording: 1 mark for each correct part.)

Question 18**[2 Marks]**

A.

Explain the purpose of the style attribute in HTML. Write an HTML statement to set the font color of a paragraph to "red" using inline CSS.

OR

B.

Ravi is trying to make an online payment on an e-commerce website. He sees that the website's URL starts with "http". Should he continue with the payment? Give reasons to support your answer

ANSWER — OPTION A

Purpose: The style attribute is used to apply CSS rules directly to an individual HTML element.

Code:

```
<p style="color:red;">This is a paragraph.</p>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

This is called inline CSS, because the styling is written inside the element's own opening tag and applies only to that element.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for the correct purpose of the style attribute.

1 mark for the correct HTML statement.

OR — ALTERNATIVE ANSWER**ANSWER — OPTION B**

No. Ravi should not continue with the payment if the website's URL starts with "http", because it is not secure. "https" is required for safe transactions.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

In https the letter 's' stands for secure: the data exchanged between the browser and the website is encrypted (SSL/TLS), so payment details such as card numbers and passwords cannot easily be read if intercepted. A plain http site offers no such encryption.

MARKING SCHEME

- 1 mark for the correct choice (he should not continue).
- 1 mark for the correct justification.

Question 19**[2 Marks]**

What is e-Governance? Give one example of an e-Governance website in India.

ANSWER

e-Governance is the application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for delivering government services to citizens in a convenient, efficient, and transparent manner.

Example: <https://www.india.gov.in> (National Portal of India), or Passport Seva, or DigiLocker.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

e-Governance removes the need to visit a government office in person: forms, payments and certificates are handled online, which saves time and increases transparency.

MARKING SCHEME

- 1 mark for the correct definition of e-Governance.
- 1 mark for any one correct Indian e-Governance website / portal.
- (Official wording: 1 mark for each correct part.)

SECTION C (Q20 to Q23) 4 x 3 = 12 Marks**Question 20****[3 Marks]**

The following HTML statements contain errors. Rewrite the correct statements for each.

- I. `<a src="page2.html">Next Page</a>`
- II. `<img href="flower.jpg" alt="Rose">`
- III. `<ul type="A"><li>Item 1</li></ul>`

ANSWER

I.

`<a href="page2.html">Next Page</a>`

Correction: the attribute for the anchor tag is href, not src.

II.

``

Correction: the attribute for the image tag is src, not href.

III.

```
<ol type="A"><li>Item 1</li></ol>
or
<ul><li>Item 1</li></ul>
```

Correction: type="A" is for Ordered Lists , not Unordered Lists .

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

In III the tag accepts type values such as disc, square and circle only; alphabetical numbering (A, B, C ...) belongs to . Either changing the tag to or dropping the invalid type attribute from is accepted.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for each correct rewritten statement (3 x 1 = 3 marks).

Question 21

[3 Marks]

A. With reference to mobile technologies, briefly explain the following:

- I. SMS
- II. 3G
- III. 5G

ANSWER

- I. SMS (Short Message Service): A text messaging service component of most telephone, Internet, and mobile device systems.
- II. 3G (Third Generation): Mobile technology that introduced faster data transmission speeds allowing for video calling and mobile internet access.
- III. 5G (Fifth Generation): The latest generation of cellular mobile communications, offering ultra-low latency, massive connectivity for IoT, and significantly faster download speeds.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for each correct explanation (3 x 1 = 3 marks).

Editorial note (Competishun): The officially released question paper labels this question "A." but does not provide any alternative "B." Question 21 therefore carries no internal choice; the label is retained exactly as issued.

Question 22

[3 Marks]

A.

- I. Write the HTML code to embed a video file named documentary.mp4 into a webpage. The video should have a width of 400 pixels and a height of 300 pixels. It should display playback controls.
- II. Which attribute of the tag is used to specify the font family?

OR

B.

Write the HTML code to create a table with 2 rows and 2 columns and a border of 2. The first row should be the table header containing Roll No and Name, and the second row should contain the values 1 and Rahul respectively.

ANSWER — OPTION A

I.

```
<video src="documentary.mp4" width="400" height="300" controls>
</video>
```

II. face

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The width and height attributes fix the display size in pixels and controls displays the play, pause and volume buttons. In part II, the face attribute of sets the typeface, for example .

MARKING SCHEME

2 marks for Part I (the correct <video> code with src, width, height and controls).
1 mark for Part II (face).
(Official wording: 2 marks for part-a, 1 mark for part-b.)

Editorial note (Competishun): Official marking scheme refers to "part-a" and "part-b"; the question itself labels the two parts I and II. Labels aligned here; the allocation is unchanged.

OR — ALTERNATIVE ANSWER

ANSWER — OPTION B

```
<table border="2">
  <tr>
    <th>Roll No</th>
    <th>Name</th>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>1</td>
    <td>Rahul</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

<table border="2"> draws the table with a 2-pixel border, each <tr> creates one row, <th> creates the heading cells of the first row and <td> the data cells of the second row.

MARKING SCHEME

3 marks for the correct code.

Question 23

[3 Marks]

A. Write the HTML code to display the following statements on a webpage:

- I. The chemical formula for Sulfuric Acid is H_2SO_4 .
- II. The Pythagorean theorem is $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.
- III. The coordinates are represented as (X_1, Y_1) .

ANSWER

I.

The chemical formula for Sulfuric Acid is
 $\text{H}_{2}\text{SO}_{4}$.

II.

The Pythagorean theorem is $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

III.

The coordinates are represented as (X_{1} , Y_{1}).

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The `<sub>` tag renders text as a subscript (used for the numbers in a chemical formula and for coordinate indices) and the `<sup>` tag renders text as a superscript (used for powers).

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for each correct statement (3 x 1 = 3 marks).

Editorial note (Competishun): The officially released marking scheme prints "(3 marks for each part)" against this 3-mark question, which would total 9 marks. The allocation shown above (1 mark per part) is the Competishun editorial correction needed to make the stepwise marks add up to the 3 marks carried by the question; it is not official CBSE guidance. The same question type in the 2025-26 official marking scheme was allotted 1 mark for each correct answer. The question also carries the label "A." with no alternative "B.", exactly as issued.

SECTION D (Q24) 1 x 4 = 4 Marks**Question 24****[4 Marks]**

A.

Write the complete HTML code to design a webpage with the following specifications:

Benefits of Yoga

Yoga is a practice that connects the body, breath, and mind.

- Flexibility
- Strength
- Peace

Expected output of the webpage (specimen output; not to scale).

- (I) The title of the webpage should be "Healthy Living".
- (II) Background color of the page should be "LightGreen".
- (III) The main heading "Benefits of Yoga" should be in color "Blue".
- (IV) The paragraph describing yoga (as shown above) with font size "5".
- (V) An unordered list listing three benefits: "Flexibility", "Strength", "Peace".

OR

B.

Write the complete HTML code to design a "Feedback Form" as shown here, according to the specifications given below:

Customer Feedback

Name:

Service Rating: ☐ Good ☐ Bad

City:

Agra

New Delhi

Jaipur

Noida

Expected output of the Feedback Form (specimen output; not to scale).

- I. Background Color: The page background should be "Pink".
- II. Heading: "Customer Feedback" in the largest heading tag, center-aligned.
- III. Form Elements:
 - Name: A Text box to accept the user's name.
 - Service Rating: Two Radio buttons with labels "Good" and "Bad".
 - City: A List box, showing four city names.

ANSWER — OPTION A

```
<html>
<head>
<title>Healthy Living</title>
</head>
<body bgcolor="LightGreen">
<center><h1 style="color:blue;">Benefits of Yoga</h1></center>
<p><font size="5">Yoga is a practice that connects the body, breath,
and mind.</font>
</p>
<ul>
<li>Flexibility</li>
<li>Strength</li>
<li>Peace</li>
</ul>
</body>
</html>
```

MARKING SCHEME

1/2 mark each for correct HTML code for specification I, II, III and IV (4 x 1/2 = 2 marks).
2 marks for correct HTML code for specification V.
Total: 4 marks.

OR — ALTERNATIVE ANSWER

ANSWER — OPTION B

```
<html>
<body bgcolor="Pink">
  <h1 align="center">Customer Feedback</h1>
  <form>
    Name: <input type="text" name="name"><br><br>
    Service Rating:
    <input type="radio" name="rating" value="good"> Good
    <input type="radio" name="rating" value="bad"> Bad <br><br>
    City: <br><select size="4">
      <option>Agra</option>
      <option>New Delhi</option>
      <option>Jaipur</option>
      <option>Noida</option>
    </select><br><br>
  </form>
</body>
</html>
```

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

<select size="4"> displays the city names as a list box with four visible rows rather than as a drop-down. The two radio buttons share the same name attribute so that only one of them can be selected at a time.

MARKING SCHEME

1/2 mark for correct HTML code for specification I.
1/2 mark for correct HTML code for specification II.
3 marks for correct HTML code for specification III (1 mark for each of the three sub-parts).
Total: 4 marks.

Editorial note (Competishun): Specification II requires the heading to be center-aligned and allots 1/2 mark for it, but the code printed in the officially released marking scheme uses a plain `<h1>` tag, which is left-aligned. `align="center"` has been added above so that the model answer actually satisfies the specification it is credited for; `<center><h1>Customer Feedback</h1></center>` is equally acceptable. This is a Competishun editorial correction, not official CBSE guidance. Note also that the specimen output supplied with the official question paper shows the heading left-aligned, which does not match the written specification; a candidate following either the figure or the text should not be penalized. (The attribute value in `size="4"` has also been quoted, for consistency.)

SECTION E (Q25 to Q26) 2 x 4 = 8 Marks**Question 25****[4 Marks]**

Rohan receives an email informing him that he has won a ₹1 Crore lottery prize. The email instructs him to click on a link and enter his bank details, including his account number, password, and OTP, in order to claim the reward. Just as Rohan is about to click the link, his sister intervenes and warns him.

- I. Which type of online fraud is being attempted in this situation?
- II. Why do you think the attacker requested the OTP?
- III. Mention one precaution that can help prevent such fraud attempts.
- IV. State one visual clue that usually indicates a fraudulent website or email.

ANSWER

- I. Phishing OR E-commerce Fraud (both to be accepted)
- II. To gain unauthorized access to the account by bypassing the bank's security check — the OTP is the final verification step, so with it the attacker can complete a fraudulent transaction.
- III. Never share passwords or OTPs with anyone. (Also accepted: do not click links in unknown emails; verify the sender; use only trusted websites.)
- IV. A suspicious or incorrect email address, or spelling and grammar mistakes. (Also accepted: a URL without https / no padlock symbol; a generic greeting; an unrealistic offer.)

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

The email tries to trick Rohan into revealing confidential banking credentials by posing as a genuine prize notification. Obtaining credentials by deception in this way is phishing, which is one form of online / e-commerce fraud. A genuine bank, lottery or payment service never asks for a password or OTP.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for each correct part (4 x 1 = 4 marks).
Part I: accept either "Phishing" or "E-commerce Fraud".

Editorial note (Competishun): The officially released marking scheme gives only "E-commerce Fraud" for part I. The scenario described is a textbook phishing attempt, and the corresponding question in the 2025-26 official marking scheme was answered as "e-commerce fraud or Phishing". Accepting both is therefore a Competishun editorial recommendation and is not official CBSE guidance for this session; the mark allocation is unchanged.

Question 26**[4 Marks]**

Maya is a talented software developer who has created a new photo-editing application. She wants to share her software with the public so that other developers can learn from her code and improve upon it. However, she also wants to ensure that she receives credit as the original creator and that no one can claim her work as their own or sell it without her permission.

Based on the above information, answer the following questions:

- I. Maya decides to release the software under a license that allows anyone to view, modify, and distribute the source code freely. What type of software is this called?
- II. Which Intellectual Property Right (IPR) automatically protects Maya's original code from being copied or claimed by others without her permission?
- III. If Maya wants to prevent others from using her software's unique name or logo to sell fake versions of her app, which form of protection should she register for?
- IV. A competitor downloads Maya's code, removes her name, and sells it as their own product without making any changes. What is this unethical act called?

ANSWER

- I. Open Source Software (OSS) / Free and Open Source Software (FOSS).
- II. Copyright.
- III. Trademark.
- IV. Plagiarism OR Software Piracy OR Copyright Infringement.

SOLUTION / EXPLANATION

Copyright arises automatically the moment an original work is created and protects the expression, that is, the source code itself. A trademark protects a distinctive name, logo or symbol used in trade and must be registered. Passing off someone else's work as one's own is plagiarism; distributing or selling it without permission is also software piracy / copyright infringement.

MARKING SCHEME

1 mark for each correct part (4 x 1 = 4 marks).

QUICK ANSWER KEY — SECTION A

Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer
1	A	5	B	9	B
2	B	6	C	10	False
3	B	7	B	11	C
4	B	8	B	12	D

Option letters only. The full option text is given with each question above. Q10 is a True/False question; Q11 and Q12 are Assertion-Reason questions.

MARK DISTRIBUTION — VERIFICATION

Section	Questions	Pattern	Marks
Section A	Q1 - Q12	12 x 1	12
Section B	Q13 - Q19	7 x 2	14
Section C	Q20 - Q23	4 x 3	12
Section D	Q24	1 x 4	4
Section E	Q25 - Q26	2 x 4	8
Total	26 questions		50

Section totals and the stepwise allocations within every question have been re-added and reconcile to the stated maximum of 50 marks.

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

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