

Task 1 – Researching system software

Sample answers below.

System software	What is the system software? (operating system, encryption, defragmenter etc)	Why is the software used?	Which organisation writes the software?	Name up to three features of the software and a brief explanation of what it does.
iOS	Smart phone operating system	To allow users convenient and easy interaction with their iPhone via an interface that uses direct, multi-gesture touch control	Apple	Siri – Voice control of iOS device/personal assistant Mail – for receiving and sending email messages + attachments iMessage – allows synchronous chat conversations
Explorer	File management	Provides users with a Graphical User Interface (GUI) for the purpose of organising their files and folders	Microsoft	Rename – Changes the name of a file or folder Print – Sends a file (such as a Word document) to printer Move – moves a file from one location to another
AVG Anti-virus 2012	Anti-virus software	To prevent, detect and remove malware, such as computer viruses, spyware and other malicious attacks on computer systems	AVG	Anti-virus – protects computers from viruses, worms or Trojan horses Protective Cloud Technology – Identifies threats “in the cloud” and prevents them from infecting your computer Anti-Spyware - protects your computer from Spyware and Adware that can keep track of your personal information

Screen Paver	Screensaver program	Initially designed to prevent phosphor burn-in on CRT and plasma computer monitors by blanking the screen or filling it with moving images or patterns when the computer is not in use. Contemporary screensavers are used primarily for entertainment, security or to display system status information	Screen Paver	<p>Enable/Disable - Enable/Disable different picture sets with a single mouse click</p> <p>Password protection – Enables screensaver to be edited by authorised personnel only</p> <p>Background colour – Allows different background to be selected for images that don't fill the screen</p>
Android	Smart phone operating system	A linux-based operating system that allows users convenient and easy interaction with smartphones, and tablet computers via an interface that uses direct, multi-gesture touch control	Google	<p>Bluetooth – Allows connection to other Bluetooth devices such as 'hands free' kits</p> <p>Multitasking – Allows a number of apps to be open and used simultaneously</p> <p>Web browser – A specific 'app' which allows access to the internet</p>
File Vault	Encryption Software	By using to encrypt and decrypt data usually in the form of files, sectors on hard drives, email messages and removable media	Apple	<p>Encryption – Allows files to be protected and only accessed by those with a password</p> <p>Recovery Key – A back up method of unlocking encrypted files if the initial password is forgotten</p>
Grab	Screen capture software	For the purpose of taking an image by a computer to record the visible items displayed on the monitor, television, or another visual output device	Apple	<p>Selection – makes a screen capture of part of the screen that the user selects</p> <p>Window - makes a screen capture of a window that the user selects</p> <p>Screen - makes a screen capture of the entire screen</p>

Windows 7	Operating System	To give users a much more friendly way to access and interact with computers via a graphical user interface (GUI)	Microsoft	<p>Home Group - enables users to quickly and easily create home networks between computers using Windows 7</p> <p>Aero Peek – By clicking on the right edge of the taskbar, all open windows turn transparent, revealing all hidden icons and gadgets</p> <p>Jump Lists – Allows the user to see a list of recently used files that use a particular program</p>
PeaZip	Archiving software	To allow users to run extracting and archiving operations automatically. It can also create, edit and restore an archive's layout for speeding up archiving	PeaZip	<p>Create – Allows the creation of multiple archives</p> <p>Search – Allows the search filtering to find specific files within archived content</p> <p>Add – Allows the addition of files to already created archives</p>
Linux	Operating System	An open source operating system that enables applications and the users to access the devices on the computer to perform desired functions	Open Source	<p>Multi-user – Allows several users on the same machine at the same time</p> <p>Memory protection – Memory protection between processes, so no single program can bring a whole system down</p> <p>Multiplatform: This means it is an operating system that runs on many different Central Processing Units (CPUs)</p>

Disk Defragmenter	Defragmenter	To rearrange the fragments or discontinuous parts of each file stored on a computer hard disk so that the small, empty storage spaces adjacent to fragments can be used, effectively creating new storage space and possibly making file access faster	Microsoft	<p>Partial defragmentation - This only defragments file fragments that are smaller than 64 megabytes (MB). Therefore, any file fragments that are larger than 64 MB are not moved unnecessarily</p> <p>Cancellable defragmentation - Allows you to cancel a defragmentation session immediately when the defrag engine is busy with processing large move requests, instead of having to wait until it is finished</p> <p>Scheduled defragmentation - Allows you to schedule defragmenting sessions when you know the computer will be idle</p>
-------------------	--------------	--	-----------	--