Examination report – December 2010 series

Paper no 2730 – 022 Advanced telecommunication systems

Section 1 – Areas of good performance (question no/syllabus topic or reference)
Syllabus sections: 1.9, 1.16, Both parts were answered reasonably well indicating a reasonable understanding in this area. Syllabus sections: 1.20, 2.2 Answered well by most candidates, although quite a few candidates confused NAT with DNS. Syllabus sections: 3.5, 3.33, These parts were answered reasonably well showing a good understanding of these aspects of optical fibres. Syllabus sections: 3.7, 3.3, Reasonable answers were given here. Syllabus sections: 4.12, This part was answered reasonably well, although marks were lost because of brevity in descriptions. Syllabus sections:6.5, 6.3, Reasonable answers were given except that marks were lost due to statements rather than descriptions in part (b). Syllabus sections: 7.10, 7.5, Both parts answered reasonably well, although in some cases a lack of detail cost marks. Syllabus sections: 8.12, 8.5, Both parts answered reasonably well. Syllabus sections: 5.22, Answered accurately. Syllabus sections: 5.28/29, 5.27, Both parts answered reasonably well.
Section 2 – Areas for development (question no/syllabus topic or reference)
Syllabus sections: 2.14, 2.9, Answers were vague and incorrect showing a lack of understanding in both of these areas. Syllabus sections: 3.15, Very few candidates gave correct answers in identifying the correct attenuation coefficients. Syllabus sections: 4.2, Very scanty unlabelled sketches may costs candidates marks here. Syllabus sections: 4.9, Very few candidates gave correct answers, indicating a lack of knowledge regarding the ATM operation and structure, regarding the CLP. Syllabus sections: 7.19, Many candidates failed to give explanations, but simply repeated the wording in the question. Syllabus sections: 5.9, 5.5, Both parts answered very poorly indicating a distinct lack of knowledge in these areas. Syllabus sections: 5.24, Again, many candidates simply repeated the question, I.E. ‘switches create collision domains’.

Section 3 - Recommendations Read questions carefully regarding- descriptions, explanations etc.
Section 4 – Tips Produce neat legible diagrams if asked for.