

PSP

Week 3 : Answers

Question 1:

a) What do you understand by the term database?

A database is a group of related records. It is the computer equivalent of a file in a filing cabinet.

b) Give one difference between a Word Processor and a database.

Word processing is the capability to use advanced hardware to input, save and print words, sentences and paragraphs. Database management system (DBMS) skill is the ability to key in large number of records, manipulate them and bring out results in numerical form.

c) What are two drawbacks of a manual databases?

- Takes Up a Lot of Space
- Large ongoing staff training cost.

Question 2:

The table below is a database of personal computers.

Brand	Model	Software	Availability
IBM	Aptiva	Windows/Office XP	Yes
Acer	Power	Windows XP	No
Compaq	Deskpro	Windows/Photoshop	Yes
Dell	Dimension	Windows /Acrobat Reader	Yes

a) How many fields and records are there in the database above?

Fields: **4** Records: **4**

b) List the field names in the table above.

Brand, Model, Software, Availability.

c) Which brand of computers is out of stock?

Acer

d) Rearrange the database above according to the brand (BRAND) in ascending order.

Brand	Model	Software	Availability
Acer	Power	Windows XP	No
Compaq	Deskpro	Windows/Photoshop	Yes
Dell	Dimension	Windows /Acrobat Reader	Yes
IBM	Aptiva	Windows/Office XP	Yes

Question 3:

Briefly explain the meaning of each of the following terms.

- a) **Field:** A field is one item in a record. It is the computer equivalent of a column in a paper file.
- b) **Record:** A record is one entry in a database. It is the equivalent of a row or a line in a paper file or a single index card.
- c)
- d) **Primary Key:** It uniquely identifies a record in the relational database table.
- e) **Foreign key:** A foreign key is a column or group of columns in a relational database table that provides a link between data in two tables.

Question 4:

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words given in the box below, (You can use a word more than once.)

Field	DBMS	Package
Record	Records	fields

- a) An individual entry in a database is called a **record**.
- b) The smallest unit in a database is known as a **field**.
- c) In a database, the rows are called **records** and the columns are called **fields**.
- d) The software **packages** that manages the data in a database is called **DBMS**.

Question 5:

Indicate whether the following statement are true or false.

- a) Reorganizing data is also known as REPORT. **True**
- b) Exporting means transferring data from a database to a word. **True**
- c) The first step in database creation is problem analysis. **True**
- d) Database layout cannot be modified once created. **False**