

2007 Paper 2 Question 9

Professional Practice and Ethics

- (a) The U.K. Disability Discrimination Act 1995 places a duty on organisations to provide equality of access for disabled people. Web-based content can fall under the provisions of the Act wherever it is used to provide goods, services, staff information (such as on an intranet) or education. Name *two* kinds of disability which may limit Web access. How can Web access be improved for people with those kinds of disability? [4 marks]
- (b) Present *two* credible moral justifications someone gaining illegal access to a computer might give for this activity. What arguments would you present against those reasons? [4 marks]
- (c) Part 5 of The Police and Justice Bill 2006 introduces amendments to the Computer Misuse Act (CMA) of 1990. One of the amendments increased the scope of the law to include denial of service attacks. How was this done? A further clause, 3A, was added to the CMA 1990. What acts were criminalised by this clause, and what objections have been raised against the clause? [4 marks]
- (d) “Honest, upright, law-abiding citizens have nothing to fear from the distribution of their personal data.” Do you agree or not? Give at least *three* reasons for your position and *one* reasonable objection to it. [4 marks]
- (e) What is the consequentialist justification for laws that give ownership and control of software to individuals or corporations (proprietary software)? What is the basic dilemma in giving individuals the ownership and control of software they wrote? Is there any alternative to working with privately-owned (proprietary) software? [4 marks]