Pearson BTEC **Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology**

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information

Evaluation

After you have completed a database project, it is important to perform an evaluation. Not only will this help you to identify issues to correct within the current project, it will also help you to identify how you can improve in future projects.

Evaluation of Database Testing

Different Types of Testing	Did you use normal, extreme & erroneous data for all data entry tests? Was the test data chosen appropriate?
Recording of Actual Results & Test Records	Were the results documented effectively? Did screenshots provide clear evidence of the tests success or failure? Is it clear which screenshots relate to which test? Is documentation completed in a timely fashion and is clearly understandable?
Comment on Results	Were all results commented on and did these comments clearly identify the success or failure of the results? For any issues identified, did you clearly explain what went wrong and how this have been corrected?
Iterative Processes	Testing is an iterative process designed to improve the accuracy, readability & robustness of the system. Did system should not be completed once, but where issues are identified, there should be retesting completed to show that the issues have been fully resolved. Was this completed?
Identifying & Recording Success & Issues Not Resolved	As mentioned, successful tests should clearly be commented on to record their success. If there are issues identified that are not resolved though, the evaluation should clearly explain why these issues were not resolved.

Evaluation of the Database

Solution Fitness for Purpose	It may be that your system might not entirely achieve the purpose of the system. There may have been certain features required that were not implemented. So, it’s not simply a case of “it is fit for purpose” or “it is not fit for purpose”. Look at both the strengths and weaknesses in this area.
Intuitiveness & Ease of Use	How simple is your database solution to use for the end users? Have you considered the relative skill levels of the people using the system? Have you implemented good features to ensure the system can be used without a lot of training? Making the system more intuitive and easier to use involves using good error messages, clear labelling of inputs and a simple, clear user interface & navigation.
Constraints of the Database Software	We should look at whether the software we chose was appropriate, and any ways it may have prevented us from implementing any of the features required by the client or any other requirements, such as budget and timescales.
Maintainability of the Database	Factors for maintainability include: • Good Naming Convention – Every object should have sensible and clear names identifying their purpose. • Commenting of Code – If you have implemented any VBA macro code, then this code should be commented to explain what it is doing.
Extent that Requirements are Met	The absolute most important goal in the development is, does the system meet the client and user requirements we defined at the beginning of the project? To what extent have each of the requirements been met? Some may be fully met, some partially but with issues and perhaps some may not have been met at all. \Where they have not been met completely, clearly explain why. Also, as always, be evaluative, do not just say “I have met this requirement because I did this…”.

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