

Past-paper walk-through

File handling ■ 8.3

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 0478/21 N25 Q9 ■ 4 marks
- 0478/22 M25 Q2 ■ 1 mark

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 9

0478/21 N25 ■ Q9 ■ 4 marks

A school stores all the students' attendance data in a file called `Attendance.txt`

Write an algorithm in pseudocode to read a line of text from the file and store this line in the variable `StudentAttendance`

[4]

Solution 9

Worked steps

Four statements, and each is a mark.

```
OPENFILE "Attendance.txt" FOR READ
FOR Index <- 1 TO 100
    READFILE "Attendance.txt", StudentAttendance[Index]
NEXT Index
CLOSEFILE "Attendance.txt"
```

Solution 9

- **Open Attendance.txt for read** — the exact file name, in quotation marks.
- **Use READFILE** — the pseudocode statement for reading one line.
- **Store what is read** in StudentAttendance, using the loop counter as the index.
- **Close the file.**

Three things decide the marks:

- **The file name appears in every statement.** Pseudocode has no “currently open file”, so leaving it out of the READFILE costs the mark.
- **Read into the array element, not into a spare variable** that is then discarded. The question asks for the data to be stored.
- **Close it.** The close is a mark of its own and is the one most often forgotten.

Solution 9

When the number of lines is not given, use `WHILE NOT EOF("Attendance.txt")` instead of a counted loop, and keep your own index that increments inside it. Either form scores; a counted loop needs a count the question actually supplies. [Mark scheme](#)

- One mark per bullet point
- ■ correctly opening Attendance.txt for read
- ■ use of READFILE
- ■ ... and storing in StudentAttendance
- ■ closing Attendance.txt
- Example
- `OPENFILE Attendance.txt FOR READ`
- `READFILE Attendance.txt, StudentAttendance`
- `CLOSEFILE Attendance.txt`

Question 2

0478/22 M25 ■ Q2 ■ 1 mark

Tick (✓) **one** box to complete this sentence.

The pseudocode to store a hotel name held in the variable `Name` to a text file is [1]

A \texttt{READFILE Hotels.txt, Name}

B \texttt{WRITEFILE Hotels.txt, Name}

C \texttt{WRITEFILE Name, Hotels.txt}

D \texttt{STOREFILE Hotels.txt, Name}

Solution 2

- A \texttt{READFILE Hotels.txt, Name}
- B \texttt{WRITEFILE Hotels.txt, Name} 
- C \texttt{WRITEFILE Name, Hotels.txt}
- D \texttt{STOREFILE Hotels.txt, Name}

Answer: **B**