Assessors Panel

CREST Practitioner Security Analyst
Examination
Notes for Candidates

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Version History

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Document Review

Reviewer	Position
Chair	Technical Committee / Assessors Panel
Chair	CREST Board

1   Introduction

1.1   Examination

The (CPSA) Crest Practitioner Security Analyst examination tests candidates' knowledge in assessing operating systems and common network services at a basic level below that of the main CRT and CCT qualifications. The CPSA examination also tests knowledge, at an intermediate level, of web application security testing and methods to identify common web application security vulnerabilities.

The examination covers a common set of core skills and knowledge. The candidate must demonstrate that they have the knowledge to perform basic infrastructure and web application vulnerability scan using commonly available tools and interpret the results to locate security vulnerabilities. Success will confer CREST Practitioner Security Analyst status to the individual.

The CREST Practitioner Security Analyst qualification is valid for three (3) years.

The examination has one component: a multiple choice written question section.

1.2   Confidentiality

CREST takes the confidentiality of the Examination very seriously. The retention or dissemination of data relating to the CREST Examination (other than what is contained in the Notes for Candidates and Technical Syllabus documentation that is available from the CREST web site http://www.crest-approved.org/) is not permitted: along with their booking forms, candidates must also send a signed Non-Disclosure Agreement to this effect, or be prepared to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the morning before they start the Examination.

2 Examination Details

2.1 Written Component

2.1.1 Format

The written component of the CPSA Examination will comprise one hundred and twenty (120) multiple choice questions, all of which the candidate must complete.

Details of the areas covered can be found in the Syllabus document.

2.1.2 Timings

Your examination will last 2 hours.

Note that your permitted maximum session time at Pearson Vue is 2.5 hours in total, allowing you time to read the Code of Conduct and also to provide feedback following the examination.

2.1.3 Open Book /Closed Book

The written multiple choice exam is conducted as a completely closed book process, reference material or access to the Internet is not permitted. Interactive chat or message systems are not permitted.

2.2 Invigilation

An invigilator will be present throughout the examination as Invigilator. The Invigilator is not there to assess candidates' capabilities: all assessment is via the objective written and practical components. However, the Invigilator will be able to answer any procedural questions that candidates may have, and assist in troubleshooting.

http://www.crest-approved.org/wp-content/uploads/Logistics-Info1.pdf

3 Marking Scheme / Pass Mark

The marking scheme is given in the table below:

Component	Total Marks
Written (multiple choice)	120

Successful candidates must score 60% of the available marks in each component. That is:

- at least **72 marks** from the **written component** (possible total: 120 marks).

Unsuccessful candidates will be told their final scores, along with feedback as to the general areas in which they fell short.

4 Examination Logistics

4.1 Location

These examinations are delivered at a Pearson Vue centre of your choice. Please visit www.pearsonvue.com and follow the on-screen instructions to schedule your chosen examination.

4.2 Before the Examinations starts

Before the Examination starts, candidates will:

- **Have to sign an NDA**. This is to help us maintain the confidentiality of the Examination.
- Have to sign the **CREST Code of Conduct**.

4.3 Communication of Results

Examination results from the automated process are provided to the candidate at the end of the exam session.

Examination scripts will be reviewed within fifteen working days of the examination and formal certificates produced where appropriate and posted to the candidate in hard copy.

5 Example questions

5.1 Written Questions Multiple choice

An example multiple choice question is given below, along with the answer.

5.1.1 Question

Which of the following is NOT a valid DNS record type?

- A. SOA – Start of Authority
- B. NWS – News Server
- C. CNAME – Canonical Name
- D. MX – Mail eXchange
- E. PTR - Domain Name Pointer

Candidates should clearly indicate their answer by circling the appropriate letter in their test script.

5.1.2 Answer

The correct answer is (B).

5.1.3 Marking scheme

Each multiple choice answer is worth one (1) mark. No points are deducted for incorrect answers.