

COMPSCI 732 Exam Prep

- Questions of a similar style to previous years, ie one to two paragraph answers (sometimes a little longer) typically needed.

Part 1 Swot notes (Gill)

- Describe what the advantages and disadvantages of an XML database are, and when they are preferable to other database systems
- Model based vs text based NXDs – when is one better than the other, name an application where you would use one rather than the other.
- What features would you find in a NXD but not in other database systems? How does something like a query language in a NXD differ from query languages in other database systems?
- Study the numbering schemes – what problem are they solving, do they work well, what are the advantages of one numbering scheme over another numbering scheme.
- Give an example of indexes and data structures that improve the performance of queries in XML databases.
- Describe the kinds of updates you would expect to find in an update language for XML databases.
- In addition, I expect a thorough knowledge of the lecture material and experience gained from the assignment.

Part 2 Swot notes (John)

- Questions may look at making linkages between different parts of my section.
- I handed out many research papers. Ones that are particularly important to have a good understanding of are:
 - Green et al's Cognitive Dimensions paper
 - Burnett's Visual Languages paper
 - At least two of the domain specific languages papers covered in the class exercise
 - Pounamu paper
 - Evolving Frameworks Pattern language paper
- In addition, I expect a thorough knowledge of the lecture material and experience gained from the assignment.

Part 3 Swot notes (Robert)

- Write VML code for a particular mapping situation
 - Two small schema represented as UML diagrams
 - Exact syntax is not necessary
- Questions which ask you to reflect on advanced mapping techniques, for example
 - Consistency management
 - Automated mapping specification
 - Specification environments
 - Graphical environments, e.g., forms-based mapper and analysis as in the paper "Domain-Specific Visual Languages for Specifying and Generating Data Mapping Systems "