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Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

PL Business, Admin and Finance
(BA103) Paper 01

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Questions 1-4 – Candidates generally scored well on the multiple choice questions. Although some candidates were unsure on Question 1 with the account that contained an overdraft.

Questions 5a & 5b – This question was answered very well, with most candidates able to show a good understanding of online banking and were able to give some good examples for protecting themselves online.

Question 6 – This type of question has caused candidates problems before, and to gain the higher marks candidates need to show that they fully understand the importance of managing your money properly. They need to expand on what is meant by a bad credit history and the problems this could cause when borrowing finance in the future.

Questions 7a & 7b – Part a was answered well by most candidates, but part b was weaker. Many candidates were unsure about the risk involved in investing and this needs to be thoroughly developed in future.

Questions 8a & 8b – Most candidates were able to gain good marks on this question, but there was some confusion over the correct placement of the mortgage and the overtime. 8b was answered better this time as most candidates were able to identify a surplus or deficit were appropriate.

Question 8c – This wasn't answered particularly well as candidates need to identify areas of income or expenditure where the budget could be improved.

Questions 9ai & 9aii - Most candidates were able to explain what DD meant on a bank statement but many candidates showed little understanding of the terms Bacs.

Questions 9b & 9c – Candidates were able to show a good understanding of the differences between a debit card and credit card and were able to score some high marks on this question. However, there were weaker answers on 9c, with some candidates showing little understanding of what a loan is.

Overall, the standard improved this year with some candidates able to gain some very good marks.

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