

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

PL Business, Admin and Finance
(BA304) Paper 01

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General Comments

Numerical Questions were generally well answered this June, but there needs to be more work on Ratios and showing how they achieved their answers. Written answers were poorly design and to achieve the higher marks candidates need to show more analysis and evaluation.

Questions

Questions 1-5 – One the whole the multiple choice questions were answered well. Question 4 seemed to cause a few problems with most wrong answers. Candidates were confused over who owns a plc.

Question 6 – A few candidates seemed to struggle with this answer and were unable to deduct the VAT successfully. Some candidates also missed out by not showing their workings.

Question 7a & 7b - It was surprising to see that a number of candidates couldn't record the formula for Break-even for part a. Also, many candidates were confused about the disadvantages of Break-even analysis. Not many candidates scored well on this question.

Question 8 – There were some good answers for this question, with better candidates showing a good understanding of the role of the financial accountant, with some good examples of the accounts they would produce. Weaker candidates confused the work of the financial accountant and the management accountant.

Question 9 – The layout of the Income Statement was particularly well done this year, with quite a few candidates able to score very high marks. The most common error was the incorrect labelling of Net Profit / Net Loss.

Question 10a, 10b & 10c – This question was poorly answered, with a number of candidates incorrectly identifying or just not knowing the formulas for Debtors Collection Period and Creditor Payment Period. Due to this, candidates were unable to score highly on this question. For those candidates who attempted 10c, there were some very good answers with candidate's good levels of analysis and evaluation.

Question 11 – This question proved quite taxing for some candidates. Better candidates were able to describe and analyse debt factoring and invoice discounting. However, there were a large number of candidates who gave the wrong definition of invoice discounting or were very unsure of what it meant.

Question 12a, 12b & 12C – The question was particularly well answered and some candidates were able to gain maximum marks. The main areas of weakness were the incorrect identification of the Sales Variance in 12b.

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