

Examiners' Report Summer 2008

GCE

IGCSE Accounting (4305)

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4305/01 IGCSE Accounting

Overall the standard of scripts indicated an improvement on the previous sittings. However in spite of the comments on previous sessions candidates are still losing valuable marks through careless and incorrect use of narratives in ledger accounts. Overall presentation of the final accounts was generally of a good standard but there are still some candidates who struggle to produce a coherent balance sheet. As in previous sessions there are still several candidates who are unable to evaluate the performance of a business or deal correctly with some of the more complex aspects of double entry book-keeping.

Question 1

As usual the multiple choice questions provided a good indicator of candidate performance in the rest of the paper. Many candidates scored highly in questions (a) to (f) but weaker candidates found the questions which required more analytical skills difficult. However there were several candidates who successfully scored full marks in this question and are to be commended for their efforts.

Question 2

The responses to this question were of a good standard overall with candidates clearly understanding the requirements of the tasks. Valuable marks were lost due to incorrect narratives and the incorrect treatment of VAT, especially in the stationery account. Centres need to make candidates aware of the correct narratives in both the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers. The responses to part (d) showed an improvement on previous sittings.

Question 3

In general this question was answered very well by the majority of candidates. The most common errors were in the calculation of the provision for doubtful debts and loan interest. However the majority of candidates did provide well laid out final accounts and were rewarded accordingly.

Question 4

The responses to part (a) were disappointing with the majority of candidates unable to express clearly the meaning of the term 'dishonoured cheque'. The cash book update was generally well answered and to a lesser extent the bank reconciliation statement itself.

Question 5

Overall this question was answered poorly by the majority of candidates, especially the entries relating to the disposal of a fixed asset and the provision for depreciation. Candidates also struggled to identify the relevant concepts and their role in dealing with depreciation, so scored low marks for these sections of the question. Again many candidates lost valuable marks through incorrect narratives or the use of abbreviations.

Question 6

This question was answered very well by the majority of candidates especially parts (a), (b) and (c). Responses to part (d) were very good from well prepared students from few centres. However too many students struggled to provide any coherent evaluation and merely restated their calculated figures.

4305/02 IGCSE Accounting

The number of entries for this additional component of IGCSE Accounting was much reduced in comparison to previous sittings.

However the overall standard of scripts submitted was excellent with many candidates achieving a Distinction grade due to completing all tasks correctly and producing the required reports.

Candidates experienced few problems in dealing with the requested amendments to the original data and subsequently, the majority of candidates were able to process sales, purchases and returns correctly. The processing of payments received and made were also completed to a good standard, however weaker candidates failed to deal correctly with cash discount.

The main areas of improvement that centres need to be aware of is in the use of correct narratives when processing sales and purchases and the need to ensure that candidates produce the correct reports as indicated on the paper.

4305 Statistics

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Grade Boundaries	79	67	55	44	38	33	28	23

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