

ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS OF SRI LANKA

EXAMINER'S REPORT

LEVEL I EXAMINATION - JANUARY JULY 2021

(104) BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

As the entire question paper has been covered almost all the area of Business Environment specified to the level I, the aim was to check the candidates' overall knowledge and understanding of the subject area. As a whole most of the candidates' performance were satisfactory while others had been failed to answer well. Observing how the candidates have been answered the question paper, it had been realized that important points to prevent issues when understanding the questions and answer to the point so as to obtain sufficient marks. Majority of the candidates have been obtained considerable number of marks for the entire paper.

SECTION A

Question No. 01

By this section, overall areas of the subject of Business Environment have been covered and almost all the candidates have attempted the question. 40 marks out of 100 have been allocated and considerable number of candidates had obtained satisfactory marks. Most of the candidates had not answered successfully the question **1.5**, **1.8**, **1.9**, **1.14**, **1.16** and **1.18**. The observations regarding those questions are as follows:

- **1.5** Majority of candidates were not aware of dishonoring a cheque. Most of the candidates had marked answer 1.
- **1.8** Most of the candidates had not read the question well and most of them had marked "Leasing Companies".
- **1.9** Most of the candidates were not aware of what a postdated cheque is. Therefore, it is important that the candidates should have a clear knowledge about cheques.
- **1.14** Most of the candidates had not given correct answer for the statement and they marked the answer as "false".
- **1.16** Majority of the candidates had not given proper answer for this question and they have given sole proprietorship and partnership as the answer
- **1.17** Most of the candidates had not identified the meaning of "medium of exchange" and answered as "Currency Exchange" and "BATA System".
- **1.18** Most of the candidates had not understood what an endorsement of a cheque is and they have given answer as "Crossing of Cheques".

SECTION B

This section consisted of 4 compulsory questions. Each question had been given 10 marks.

Question No. 02

The question was based on the area of "Incorporation of Companies and ERP System".

- (a) Most of the candidates had answered **Part (a)** successfully and obtained full marks and others had explained characteristics of proprietorship and partnership.
- (b) Considerable number of candidates had not understood advantages of a private limited company. They had explained advantages of a partnership instead.
- (c) Tested the knowledge about the advantages of ICT. Considerable number of candidates had explained advantages by using their general ICT knowledge.

Question No. 03

It was expected to test the candidates' knowledge about **Communication** and **Insurance**.

- (a) Majority of the candidates had written answers by using their general knowledge. However, they were able to obtain full marks.
- (b) Majority of the candidates had written correct answers. Considerable number of candidates got full marks.
- (c) Most of the candidates had defined "Principles of Insurance" without explaining the same. So, the candidates were failed to obtain full marks for this part.

However, overall performance of the above question is satisfactory and most of the candidates had obtained satisfactory marks.

Question No. 04

- (a) Most of the candidates had understood the ways of transportation and got full marks.
- (b) Most of the students had understood the benefits of electronic trade and they had successfully answered the question.
- (c) Most of the candidates had not identified the primary documents relating to exports. Some have answered using their general knowledge and obtained some marks.

However, overall performance for the above question is satisfactory and most of the candidates had obtained satisfactory marks.

Question No. 05

It was expected to test the knowledge of the candidates regarding Entrepreneurship and SME.

- (a) Most of the candidates had not identified the difference between an entrepreneur and a business person and had not obtained full marks.
- (b) Considerable number of candidates had not answered properly the given scenario. However, they have mentioned ways to enhance performance by using their general knowledge and got marks.
- (c) Most of the candidates have given answers by using their general knowledge without ample knowledge about the importance of capital market. Therefore, candidates should follow the study pack before sitting for the examination.

SECTION C

Question No. 06

This was a case-study based question regarding "**Happy Super**" and it was expected to examine the knowledge of Transportation and CSR. Almost all the candidates have attempted this question and most of them had obtained considerable number of marks.

- (a) Majority of candidates had written contribution of **Happy Super** in achieving the economic objectives, but they have not explained it clearly. So, they were unable to obtain full marks.
- (b) The question was expected to test the knowledge of PESTEL. But most of them had only explained PEST not EL. Due to that reason they could not obtain full marks.
- (c) The question tested regarding launching of CSR. Most of the students had written using their general knowledge, but were able to obtain full marks.
- (d) This part was based on Business Focus towards Environmental Sustainability. Without understanding the question properly, a large proportion of candidates had written irrelevant answers and not obtained full marks.
- (e) This question tested Entrepreneurship Skills. Most of the candidates had answered this question and got full marks.

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General points to be considered in developing the level of understanding of candidates:

- (1) When you get the question paper, read the instructions on the paper carefully before start answering the question paper.
- (2) Get the maximum use of Self-Study Text published by AAT Sri Lanka because it is the best guideline covering the entire syllabus.
- (3) Read the question carefully and answer only what is asked in the question. Do not write unnecessary explanations and details. A direct and an accurate answer is expected for the question.
- (4) When you answer, time management is very important.
- (5) Action verb Check List with definitions is attached to the question paper itself and each question will begin with an action verb excluding Objective Test Questions (OTQs). Candidates should answer the questions based on the definition of the verb given in the Action Verb Check List.
- (6) Before handing over the answer script, check whether the question numbers and your index number have been written correctly.
- (7) Do not write answers in the question paper itself and write the answers in the answer script.
- (8) By answering past question papers, you can improve the subject knowledge as well as the ability of writing skills.
- (9) Make use of recently published magazines, hand books, newspapers and text books to update the knowledge.
- (10) Never try to give up any questions as this habit may lead to fail the exam.
- (11) Face the examination with a good preparation and with the utmost hope of passing the examination.

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