



Cambridge International AS & A Level

ACCOUNTING

9706/31

Paper 3 Structured Questions

October/November 2022

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 150

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2022 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **17** printed pages.

PUBLISHED**Generic Marking Principles**

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

PUBLISHED**Social Science-Specific Marking Principles
(for point-based marking)****1 Components using point-based marking:**

- Point marking is often used to reward knowledge, understanding and application of skills. We give credit where the candidate's answer shows relevant knowledge, understanding and application of skills in answering the question. We do not give credit where the answer shows confusion.

From this it follows that we:

- a** DO credit answers which are worded differently from the mark scheme if they clearly convey the same meaning (unless the mark scheme requires a specific term)
- b** DO credit alternative answers/examples which are not written in the mark scheme if they are correct
- c** DO credit answers where candidates give more than one correct answer in one prompt/numbered/scaffolded space where extended writing is required rather than list-type answers. For example, questions that require n reasons (e.g. State two reasons ...).
- d** DO NOT credit answers simply for using a 'key term' unless that is all that is required. (Check for evidence it is understood and not used wrongly.)
- e** DO NOT credit answers which are obviously self-contradicting or trying to cover all possibilities
- f** DO NOT give further credit for what is effectively repetition of a correct point already credited unless the language itself is being tested. This applies equally to 'mirror statements' (i.e. polluted/not polluted).
- g** DO NOT require spellings to be correct, unless this is part of the test. However spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. Corrasion/Corrosion)

2 Presentation of mark scheme:

- Slashes (/) or the word 'or' separate alternative ways of making the same point.
- Semi colons (;) bullet points (•) or figures in brackets (1) separate different points.
- Content in the answer column in brackets is for examiner information/context to clarify the marking but is not required to earn the mark (except Accounting syllabuses where they indicate negative numbers).

PUBLISHED**3 Calculation questions:**

- The mark scheme will show the steps in the most likely correct method(s), the mark for each step, the correct answer(s) and the mark for each answer
- If working/explanation is considered essential for full credit, this will be indicated in the question paper and in the mark scheme. In all other instances, the correct answer to a calculation should be given full credit, even if no supporting working is shown.
- Where the candidate uses a valid method which is not covered by the mark scheme, award equivalent marks for reaching equivalent stages.
- Where an answer makes use of a candidate's own incorrect figure from previous working, the 'own figure rule' applies: full marks will be given if a correct and complete method is used. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted.

4 Annotation:

- For point marking, ticks can be used to indicate correct answers and crosses can be used to indicate wrong answers. There is no direct relationship between ticks and marks. Ticks have no defined meaning for levels of response marking.
- For levels of response marking, the level awarded should be annotated on the script.
- Other annotations will be used by examiners as agreed during standardisation, and the meaning will be understood by all examiners who marked that paper.

ANNOTATIONS

The following annotations are used in marking this paper and should be used by examiners.

Annotation	Use or meaning
✓	Correct and relevant point made in answering the question.
×	Incorrect point or error made.
LNK	Two statements are linked.
REP	Repeat
A	An extraneous figure
N0	No working shown
AE	Attempts evaluation
R1	Required item 1
R2	Required item 2
OF	Own figure
EVAL	Evaluation
NAQ	Not answered question
BOD	Benefit of the doubt given.
SEEN	Noted but no credit given
Highlight	Highlight
Off page Comment	Off page comment

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Question	Answer			Marks																																																																																								
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1(e)	<p>Health and safety of visitors in an area with machinery (1) Possibility of contamination of food stuffs in the factory (1) Costs of staff to act as guides during the tours (1) Prices he could charge in the gift shop (1) Costs of staff to work in the gift shop (1) Anticipated level of sales in the gift shop (1)</p> <p>Accept other valid points Max 3</p>	3																																																																												

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2(b)	5 January 2022 – non-adjusting (1) 6 January 2022 – adjusting (1)	2
2(c)	To make its statement of financial position more realistic (1) so that depreciation charges to be based on the revalued amounts giving a more meaningful cost (1) Accept other valid answers.	2
2(d)	A provision for doubtful debts would not stop irrecoverable debts (1) as it is only a paper entry which does not stop credit customers from defaulting (1). However, a provision would match the loss arising from irrecoverable debts with the income from the sales which generated the debts (1) and would stop assets from being overstated (1), applying matching/prudence (1). Decision (1) Accept other valid points Max (2) for comments plus (1) for decision	3

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	It measures the time between a business paying its trade payables for inventory and receiving funds from its trade receivables arising from the sale of that inventory (1) OR the time taken for cash to travel through the working capital of a business (1)	1
3(b)	AB plc has a longer inventory turnover period (1) which may be due to holding a higher level of inventory (1). It has a longer trade receivables turnover period (1) as it receives payments slower (1). It has a shorter trade payables turnover period (1) as it pays its credit suppliers faster (1). Any two reasons, (1) mark for identification of effect on ratio plus (1) mark for development	4

Question	Answer				Marks
3(c)		Formula	2021	2020	12
Earnings per share	$\frac{\text{Profit for the year}}{\text{Number of shares}}$ (1)	\$0.46(1)	\$0.49(1)		
Dividend per share	$\frac{\text{Dividend paid}}{\text{Number of shares}}$ (1)	\$0.23 (1)	\$0.24 (1)		
Price earnings ratio	$\frac{\text{Market price of share}}{\text{Earnings per share}}$ (1)	4.76 (1)OF	3.94 (1)OF		
Dividend yield	$\frac{\text{Dividend paid and proposed per share/}}{\text{Market price of share} \times 100}$ (1)	10.50% (1)OF	12.44% (1)OF		
3(d)	<p>Earnings per share has fallen. Although profit for the year has increased, it has not increased in proportion with the increase in the number of shares (1).</p> <p>Dividend per share has fallen. Although the dividend has increased in absolute terms it has not increased in proportion with the increase in the number of shares (1).</p> <p>The price earnings ratio has increased which suggests an increase in investor confidence (1)</p> <p>The dividend yield has fallen because of the increase in the share price and the fall in the dividend per share (1).</p> <p>The market value has risen because investors feel positive about the expansion of the business which is taking place (1). The benefits from the expansion are not yet being fully felt as the expansion is not yet 'bedded in' (1) and investors expect an increase in dividends and profits in the future (1).</p> <p>Accept other valid points Max (6)</p>				6

Question	Answer	Marks
3(e)	Information needs to be timely to be useful (1) . Performance of the business may already have changed (1) . There is almost a full year of performance about which the investor knows nothing (1) . Accept other valid points. 1 mark for identification and 1 mark for development.	2

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4(e)	This would bring in additional income (1) but there may be increased costs. (1) Junior members may go on to become regular members in time. (1) This may raise the club’s profile in the community. (1) Junior members may require more supervision. (1) With a lower subscription regular members may be subsidising the junior section of the club. (1) Decision (1) Accept other valid points Max (4) for comments plus (1) for decision	5

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5(a)	Cash flows in payback are not discounted (1) . Although net cash flows may cover the purchase price in absolute terms (1) they may not do so once discounted (1) especially if the distribution of cash flows is biased towards the later years of the project’s life (1) . Max (2) Accept other valid answers.	2																														
5(b)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%;">Decrease in number of services</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cost savings \$</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Repairs \$</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Total change \$</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27 }</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(2 000)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30 }(1)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(5 600)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3 400</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">39 *}</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11 700</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(12 600)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(900)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">36 *}(1)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10 800</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(19 900)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(9 100)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">(1)OF column</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(1) column</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(1)OF column</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Decrease in number of services	Cost savings \$	Repairs \$	Total change \$	1	27 }	8 100	(2 000)	6 100	2	30 }(1)	9 000	(5 600)	3 400	3	39 *}	11 700	(12 600)	(900)	4	36 *}(1)	10 800	(19 900)	(9 100)			(1)OF column	(1) column	(1)OF column	5
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5(d)	<p>The NPV is now positive (1)OF However, breakdowns become more likely involving disruption to production/increased repair costs (1) which might mean that some orders are not fulfilled on time (1) with loss of reputation amongst customers (1). If spare parts are not available delays in repairs will be inevitable (1). Workers may need to be paid overtime premiums in order to catch up once the machine is fixed (1) Decision (1)</p> <p>Accept other valid answers Max (4) for comments plus (1) for decision</p>					5																																				
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6(d)(i)	A fixed budget is based on the budgeted output level (1) whereas a flexed budget is based on the actual output level (1) .	2
6(d)(ii)	To be able to compare like with like/to make variances more meaningful (1)	1