

Global Learning Providers' Conference February 2015

F2 Management Accounting

This document summarises the Question and Answer discussion which took place in the examiner's workshop at the Global Learning Providers' Conference on 11-12 February 2015.

- **In some countries there is a tendency to use dots instead of commas as a separator in calculations, so how does this work with Number Entry questions in the CBE?**

The system will not permit candidates to insert dots or commas so there won't be any effect on the answer.

- **How is rounding managed within the CBE system?**

Candidates are given instructions in the questions on how many decimal places to round to and they need to follow these instructions. A range of answers can also be inputted into the system to allow for rounding that may occur earlier in the calculation, rather than just at the final answer.

For the above two questions, see the following links to the article written by the examining team and a video by Andrew Mower:

<http://www.accaglobal.com/uk/en/student/acca-qual-student-journey/qual-resource/acca-qualification/f2/technical-articles/changes-to-the-structure-of-paper-f2-fma.html>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQlwbDX9z0w&feature=player_embedded

- **Should students be taught first principles, eg how to complete a full operating statement, even though they will not be examined in full on this?**

Yes. This will give candidates a full understanding of the technique and what it means and they will therefore be in a better position to pick out individual parts of that technique which questions may focus on. In addition, this will prepare them better for the Skills exams, in particular F5.

- **Some candidates have reported to their learning centres that there appears to be an element of luck in the questions that they get in their CBE and that some exams are much harder than others. How is this managed?**

There are stringent rules set out regarding how questions are selected for each CBE generated to ensure an appropriate balanced exam is presented. It should be noted that these selected questions are however presented in a randomised order to each candidate, so there is a possibility that if a candidate perceives the first few questions as difficult, this then can colour their perception of the whole CBE.

- **Are paper based exams being phased out?**

Paper based entries have been falling steadily for some time. However, plans to withdraw will happen slowly and over time, ensuring that the individual markets can support a move to have only CBE.

Since the December 2014 exam session, following a market by market approach, paper based exams are being phased out for our exams that are currently available via on-demand CBE (FIA and F1-F3).*

You can find out when your market will be affected and more about the benefits of CBEs by going to our dedicated [GoCBE website here](#).

** This does not yet include the F4 English and F4 Global exams, which will be phased out at a later date.*