

Think Ahead



F9

Financial  
Management

F9 Examiner

February 2015

## December 2014 review

### Part A

- Format of paper
- All questions answered
- Good success rate

### ***Format of paper***

This was the first F9 examination under the new format of Section A and Section B, with 20 2-mark MCQs in Section A and longer-form questions in Section B.

Section A draws from all parts of the F9 syllabus and everything is examinable.

### ***All questions answered***

Almost all candidates answered all questions in Section A.

### ***Good success rate***

There was a good success rate in selecting correct answers.

The balance of narrative and calculation questions will remain similar in future examination diets.

The December 2014 Examiner's Report reviewed two questions in Part A from a knowledge perspective.

## December 2014 review

### Part B

- Format of paper
- Usually all questions answered
- Fairly good performance

### ***Format of paper***

In Section B there are five longer-form questions: three 10-mark questions and two 15-mark questions, worth 60% of the marks overall.

Like Section A, Section B can draw from all parts of the F9 syllabus, so everything is examinable.

The balance of narrative and calculation marks will remain broadly similar in future examination diets.

### ***Usually all questions answered***

The majority of candidates answered all questions in Section B, with varying degrees of success in the different parts of questions.

### ***Fairly good performance***

The December 2014 Examiner's Report looks at student performance in Section B in detail, so I will not go over the various points again here, other than to note that, in general, calculation question performance was better than that in narrative questions.

## Lessons Learned

- Study the whole syllabus
- Practice past exam questions
- Include and label all workings

All of the lessons learned mentioned in the examiner presentation from the 2013 GLPC could have been repeated here, as they are still relevant. I want to emphasise three of them.

### ***Study the whole syllabus***

First, it is essential to study the whole syllabus and the new format of the F9 examination paper highlights this. Candidates can be asked question relating to any part of the syllabus.

### ***Practice past exam questions***

Second, it is essential to study past examination questions. 'Practice makes perfect' it is true even where the format of questions may differ from those currently used.

### ***Include and label all workings***

Third, candidates should show their workings and label them, otherwise marks can be lost. In Q1(b) in December, where a current ratio had to be calculated, a significant number of candidates gave no workings or did not label their calculations.

## Focus on future exams

- Examination format
- Four examinations per year
- Transition to e-assessment

### ***Examination format***

No change is planned in the exam format

### ***Four examinations per year***

From September 2015 there will be four F9 examinations each year, in September, December, March and June, although September 2015 will only be available in certain markets.

### ***Transition to e-assessment***

As this transition progresses, there will be a movement from paper-based exams to computer-based exams, for more information on computer-based exams look out for the ongoing updates from ACCA.



Thank you  
Questions?