

Examiner's report

F4 (ZWE) Corporate & Business Law

For Paper Variant exams June 2017

General Comments

The format of the paper is split into two parts, Section A and Section B respectively. Section A comprises of 45 multiple choice questions – 25 questions attracting 2 marks each (50 marks) and 20 multiple choice questions attracting 1 mark each (20 marks) to make it an aggregate of 70 marks. For the 2 mark multiple choice questions, candidates are expected to select the correct answer out of 4 possible answers whereas the 1 mark multiple choice questions involve selecting the correct answer out of 3 possible answers. The other 30 marks are derived from section B whose 5 questions carry 6 marks each.

Both Section A and B are compulsory and candidates are strongly encouraged to prepare for the examinations by covering the syllabus in its entirety. What follows is a brief treatment of some of the questions from both sections.

Comments on Section A performance

In the main, Section A was reasonably well answered by the majority of the candidates. However, a question on the nature of Zimbabwe's legal system caused candidates difficulty as did one on "show cause orders" in the context of employment law. An example of a further question which candidates found difficult is discussed below:

The new Constitution of Zimbabwe (2013) outlaws the death penalty in which of the following circumstances?

- A In all cases
- B In the case of female offenders and minors only
- C In the case of female offenders, minors and male offenders who are over 65

(1 mark)

This question seems to have caught many candidates by surprise. The new Constitution of Zimbabwe outlaws capital punishment in all cases involving female offenders and minors .

Comments on Section B performance

Candidates showed evidence of thorough preparation and a commendable appreciation of the law relative to partnerships. The answers to a question on insider dealing were also generally satisfactory.

A question that posed a particular difficulty to candidates was one on board committees. This question required candidates to demonstrate a knowledge of the respective roles of executive and non-executive directors, before considering a specific conflict of interests scenario. Overall, the majority of the candidates found the question extremely challenging and as a result the average performance was not as good as in the other Section B questions.