

Comments on Candidate Performance on Finance Elective (July 2017)

Most candidates did a good job of understanding the scenarios presented. Most candidates addressed, analyzed and discussed the directed requirements within both cases. Both cases laid out the requirements very clearly. However, the second case was a bit more difficult as candidates were required to integrate information from several parts of the case to address some of the AOs. The difficulty of the second case was not to identify the issues, but rather to sort through the information provided and do the right analysis.

Most candidates attempted all of the requirements, but there were a few candidates that did not allocate their time appropriately and failed to address all requirements. Most candidates were able to comprehend the situation and address the requirements using practical analysis and the case information provided.

Many candidates mismanaged their time and ran out of time on the last AO of Case #2. Some candidates appeared to get 'caught up' in the numbers, as evidenced by the length of some of their exhibits, and as a result were not able to answer all of the specified requirements. Candidates need to ensure that they manage their time appropriately when completing examinations.

Surprisingly, some candidates did not even attempt a calculation, or, provided very few adjustments, insufficient to demonstrate Competence.

Comments on Skills

Identification: Generally, well done by most candidates although some did not identify the need to discuss the financial reporting impacts in Case #1 and discuss the financing requirements for Case #2 (which were both the last AO requirement for each case). This may have been due to poor time management.

Analysis: Most candidates that attempted the AOs did it with sufficient analysis. Some of them however provided superficial responses. Very few provided an incorrect analysis, however, many didn't have sufficient analysis.

Integration: This was adequately performed for the most part as most candidates integrated their calculations to other analyses and their overall conclusions.

Conclusion: Most candidates presented reasonable, convincing, supported conclusions and/or recommendations.

Communication: Nearly all candidates adequately communicated within their response. Language used was appropriate and quantitative information was well presented.