GENERAL COMMENTS

The November examination was notable in that it complemented the mid-year examination by covering topics not examined in June. For example, the June paper emphasised profitability whereas the November paper focused on liquidity. The November paper recognised all the extensions to recording and reporting, such as discount, sales allowances, departmental reports. Reporting was a major base for questioning in this examination.

Some students had problems with time management, although this does account for the large percentage of students who left the very last question (3.5.5) unanswered and/or not attempted. Success in Accounting revolves around revision and reflection and students should find time to adequately approach these two tasks in preparation for the examination.

Change to the study

The revised study 2003–2006 will take effect in 2003 and this will mean that aspects of reports from both examination periods in recent years will be relevant to June 2003 given the reallocation of content in Units 3 and 4. For example, in the current course accounting ratios and the use of that information has been examined in both examinations whereas in 2003 this topic will only be examined in November. Some topics, such as 'the bank reconciliation process' in June and 'departmental accounting' and 'functional classification' in November will disappear. Other items such as GST will be introduced to the November examination.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Question	Marks	%	Response
Question 1	1.1		Posting to the journals
_	0/2	42	This was a demanding question in terms of what students were required to
	1/2	36	supply. Students had to post two documents to journals, one a general
	2/2	22	journal. They also had to calculate cost of sales, use the correct dates and
	(Average		document numbers. In particular students had difficulty determining the
	mark 0.79)		cost of sales of \$800, at 50% of the selling price. Answers of \$600 and \$900 were incorrect.
			In the general journal, students confused the sales allowance with a sales
			return and attempted an entry recognising a selling and cost price with
			goods being returned to the business. In fact no goods were returned to the
			business and the correct entry was a debit to sales allowance and a credit to
			debtor.
	1.2		Debtors Control account
	0/3	29	Students were required to complete and balance a Debtors Control account.
	1/3	34	Consequential errors from 1.1 were allowed. The most frequent error was
	2/3	22	the double counting of discount with students showing \$1000 in the bank
	3/3	15	entry and \$50 for discount instead of \$950 and \$50 respectively. Failure to
	(Average		recognise the \$600 for bad debts was another frequent error.
	mark 1.23)		
	1.3		Control accounts
	0/2	24	Having to state benefits of maintaining a debtor subsidiary ledger and a
	1/2	34	control account posed little difficulty for most students. This has been a
	2/2	42	frequent question in recent years and students appeared well prepared for its
	(Average		inclusion in this examination.
	mark 1.17)		
	1.4		Accounting elements
	0/2	36	The defining of two elements was required to gain both marks. Students had
	1/2	44	to show the cost or sacrifice made by the business and why this was made.
	2/2	20	Acceptable reasons why the expense was incurred included; the early
	(Average		receipt of cash; the generating of revenue; or, encouraging debtors to pay
	mark 0.83)		more quickly. Most responses identified that there was a cost involved but
			generally did not explain why the business undertook that cost.
	1.5		Offsetting entries
	0/2	31	This was a relatively straightforward question and one that has appeared in
	1/2	29	recent years. Not using 'debtor control' and 'creditor control' in titles
	2/2	39	caused a loss of one mark and was the most frequent error. Some responses
	(Average		reversed the debit and credit entries. Most students used the word 'contra'
	mark 1.07)		or 'offset' in their narration and gained the mark.

	1.6.1		Calculation of depreciation
	0/2	36	This calculation of accumulated depreciation required the use of the
	1/2	34	'diminishing' balance method. In the revised course this will be known as
	2/2	30	the 'reducing balance method'. This calculation extended over three
	(Average	30	periods and proved a demanding task. The first period only covered nine
	mark 0.93)		months from October 1 2000 to June 30 2001. A further error was the
	mark 0.93)		
	1.60		unnecessary deduction of disposal value from the original cost of the asset.
	1.6.2	10	Disposal of asset
	0/3	12	Most students handled this question quite well. The calculation of
	1/3	31	accumulated depreciation from the previous question was treated as a
	2/3	30	consequential error whilst most students recognised the original cost of
	3/3	27	\$32 000. The 'balance' posted to the Profit and Loss summary account
	(Average		made up the third mark for this question.
	mark 1.71)		
	1.7		Accounting principles and concepts
	0/2	34	In the revised course 'concepts' will be known as 'qualitative
	1/2	35	characteristics '. In this question either a concept or a principle was
	2/2	31	allowed for the correct response. A clear distinction between qualitative
	(Average		characteristics and principles will be required in the revised course.
	mark 0.96)		Generally, students responded very well to this question. Most students
	1111111 0.5 0)		referred to the principle of conservatism and others responded with the
			concept of relevance. Both responses earned the first of the 2 marks
			available. Students had more difficulty with the justification. This was
			probably due to the fact that the asset decreased in value. More successful
			answers pointed out that the revalued figures would provide users with
0 11 0			information for decision-making.
Question 2	2.1	20	Reconstructing the debtors account
	0/2	30	A traditional question and generally well answered. Incorrect responses left
	1/2	19	out bad debts and reversed the bank and credit sales entries.
	2/2	51	
	(Average		
	mark 1.2)		
	2.2		Reconstructing creditors and stock accounts
	0/3	35	Less successful responses showed difficulty with balances, and in
	1/3	9	distinguishing between cost of sales and payments to creditors. Drawings of
	2/3	28	stock was also omitted in some responses.
	3/3	28	•
	(Average		
	mark 1.49)		
	2.3		Control of cash
	0/2	65	There were two parts to this question. The first was the deduction of
	1/2	28	accrued expenses and adding prepaid expenses to operating expenses to
	2/2	8	find the cash paid for expenses. This initial task is hard and it was pleasing
		0	
	Average		to see how well students handled it. The second part of the activity was the
	mark 0.42)		adding back of depreciation and bad debts. These items are both 'non-cash
			expenses' and do not involve an outflow of cash from the business. Few
	1		responses obtained full marks in this question.

	2.4		Statement of cash flows (extract)
	0/2	38	Data had to be drawn from 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 in order to complete this partial
	1/2	23	report. Consequential errors were frequent and their recognition enabled
	2/2		
		39	students to gain marks where they otherwise may not. Students were
	(Average		rewarded for 'having a go' by stating the fundamentals rather than simply
	mark 1)		giving up. Marks were lost for incorrect titles such as credit sales instead of
			receipts from debtors. Items such as capital accrued and prepaid expenses
			were considered aliens and incurred the loss of a mark.
	2.5		Cash flows
	0/2	35	Students had to identify capital as a cash inflow from financing and then
	1/2	30	justify that decision. The first part to the question was straightforward, and
	2/2	35	was successfully answered by most students. Those who erred saw capital
	(Average		as an investing item, perhaps picking up on the phrase 'that capital is the
	mark 0.99)		owner's <i>investment</i> in the business'. Students who correctly identified
			capital as a financing item frequently chose to justify their selection by
			describing it as an investing item but this was incorrect.
	2.6.1		Profit and Loss statement
	0/4	18	In the revised course, Profit and Loss statements are to be titled
	1/4	8	Statements of Financial Performance and Balance sheets will be called
	2/4	5	Statements of Financial Position.
		-	
	3/4	10	There were three questions in the examination requiring a Profit and Loss
	4/4	59	statement type response. This question required a departmental Profit and
	(Average		Loss statement and these statements are not part of the revised course.
	mark 2.84)		Dealing with percentage calculations posed a problem for many students
			but overall, students handled this question fairly well.
	2.6.2		Expense allocation to departments
	0/2	42	Students responding in the positive had a better chance of gaining full
	1/2	39	marks. To gain the second mark students had to say why the effect was
	2/2	19	adverse and more successful responses pointed out that bad decisions may
		19	
	(Average		be made if the contribution margin is overstated and the effectiveness of
	mark 0.77)		advertising not considered.
	2.6.3		Loss on sale and under depreciation
	0/2	59	In previous examinations students have only had to identify that a loss on
	1/2	29	sale was the result of under-depreciation. Responses had to explain why thi
	2/2	12	was the case. More successful responses pointed to depreciation, and
	(Average		related aspects such as 'residual value', 'life' and 'nature of use' being only
	mark 0.52)		estimates.
Question 3	3.1		Variances in the Profit and loss statement
Question 5	0/2	4	A fairly simple task requiring students to mark unfavourable variances and
		10	
	1/2	10	it was handled very well.
	2/2	86	
	(Average		
	mark 1.82)		
	3.2		Reasons for exceeding budget expectations yet owner unhappy
	0/2	20	The most obvious reason for the business exceeding budget expectations
	1/2	34	was the unexpected profit on the sale of the motor vehicle. This was readily
	2/2	46	seized on by most students, who then went on to point out that this type of
	(Average		profit is not recurring and would have overstated the business performance.
	mark 1.25)		The alternate response as to why the owner may be unhappy is due to the
	11.20)		cost of sales increasing at a faster rate than sales. More successful response
	2 2 1		also pointed out the dollar amounts involved.
	3.3.1	10	Budgeted Profit and loss statement
	0/4	12	Responses had to calculate percentage amounts. The amounts for cost of
	1/4	12	sales and gross profit were often reversed. Items were included in cost of
	2/4	27	goods sold that belonged in the general expenses. Apart from that the
	2/4	30	general expenses were well handled. There was some difficulty either in
	3/4	30	Seneral empended were went managed. There was some antirearly entirer in
	3/4 4/4	19	
			classifying rent revenue or determining the amount. Many responses sought to treat rent revenue as an expense or calculated the amount at \$3000 or

		,
3.3.2		Using a budget
0/2	25	This question, similar to many in the past, was a good reward to diligent
1/2	44	students who use past papers to prepare for examinations. The only problem
2/2	31	for students was to make two points, extend the first point or provide an
(Average	51	example or illustration, in order to gain the 2 marks.
mark 1.05)		example of mustration, in order to gain the 2 marks.
mark 1.03)		
3.4.1		Working capital
0/2	48	A definition of working capital followed by a description of the change in
1/2	29	current assets and current liabilities and the dollar amounts involved would
2/2	23	have served as the perfect response. Most responses only provided parts of
	23	
(Average		that scenario.
mark 0.74)		
3.4.2		Limitations in the use of the working capital ratio as an indicator of
0/1	75	liquidity
1/1	25	This question drew varied but many excellent answers. The expected
(Average		answers related to the uncertainties in collecting outstanding debts or
mark 0.25)		converting stock into cash at short notice. However, other correct answers
		considered the unreliability of using percentage figures alone, the ability of
		the business to borrow quickly against non-current assets and the access of
		the owner to cash capital.
3.5.1		Stock write-down
0/2	44	This question required a general journal response with stock write-down
		debited and stock control credited. The amount involved was \$1000.
1/2	30	
2/2	26	Difficulty in determining the amount of the stock write-down was a
(Average		significant error. Reversing the debit and credit entries and incorrect titles
mark 0.82)		were other errors. The term 'loss on realisation of stock' instead of stock
		write-down was not accepted.
3.5.2		Calculate stock on hand
0/2	37	To gain full marks all three stock amounts had to be determined correctly
1/2	34	and the calculation of the amount for item B of \$600 was the more common
2/2	29	error. Arithmetic errors (thought not penalised) were common.
(Average		
mark 0.92)		
3.5.3		Lower of cost and net realisable value rule
0/2	59	When asked to justify not applying the rule many responses failed to
1/2	17	provide an adequate answer. The simple response was that cost was less
2/2	24	than net realisable value. This gained 1 mark and the second was earned by
(Average	- -	stating that the cost was \$25 and the net realisable value was \$50.
mark 0.64)		Same and door has \$20 and the net realisable value was \$50.
3.5.4		Calculation of the value of stock
0/2	34	Students were basically required to produce a stock card for item A without
1/2	39	
		the structure. Very few responses reconstructed the structure, instead used
2/2	27	rough calculations. Despite that, most students gained at least 1 of the 2
(Average		marks, usually by determining that the 200 units at \$30 were still on hand.
mark 0.92)		Some students erred by using identified cost. Lack of time may also have
<u> </u>		been an issue for some students.
3.5.5		Statement of Gross profit
0/2	59	Statistically this would appear to be the most difficult question on the paper.
1/2	21	In fact that was not the case. Many students simply did not attempt the
2/2	19	question perhaps believing they had completed the paper with 3.5.4. The
(Average		instruction to 'TURN OVER' was quite clear but seemed to go unnoticed.
mark 0.59)		The first mark was awarded for determining that cost of goods sold was
1		\$11 300. The second mark was for assessing the stock loss to be \$208. The
		main error resulted from students substituting the stock loss of \$208 with
		drawings of \$52.
_i		

Answers

CREDIT SALES JOURNAL

SJ1

Date 2002	Particulars	Invoice No.	Cost of Sales \$	Sales \$
9 Nov	Outdoors Australia	27	2 000	3 000
12 Nov	Mountain Range Gear	28	800	1 200
	Total		2 800	4 200

GENERAL JOURNAL

GJ1

Date 2002	Accounts	Debit \$	Credit \$
17 Nov	Sales Returns and Allowance	100	
	Debtor – Mountain Range Gear		100

2 marks

1.2 General Ledger (extract only) of The Happy Camper Complete and Balance

DEBTORS CONTROL

Date 2002	Particulars	Amount \$	Date 2002	Particulars	Amount \$
1 Nov	Balance	5 500	30 Nov	Sales Ret. and Allow.	100
30 Nov	Credit Sales	4 200		Bank	950
				Discount Exp.	50
				Bad Debts	600
				Balance c/d	8 000

3 marks

1.3 Identify two benefits of maintaining a Debtors subsidiary Ledger and the Control Account

Benefit 1 Keeps itemised records of individual debtors

Removes individual detail from General Ledger

Serves as a cross checking mechanism

Benefit 2 Separation of duties

close monitoring of individual debtors

Ease of reporting – gives a figure for the Balance Sheet

2 marks

1.4 Explain why Discount Allowed is treated as an expense

Explanation A cost incurred in obtaining early receipt of cash from a credit sale transaction. Seen as a reduction in revenue earned and a cost associated in generating that revenue.

OR Because it is an amount that the business sacrifices in order to make debtors pay early

Narration Required

1.5

GENERAL JOURNAL

Date 2003	Accounts	Debit \$	Credit \$
30 June	Creditor – Mt Buller Supplies	500	
	Debtor – Mt Buller Supplies		500
	A contra entry for business transactions		

2 marks

1.6.1

Calculation		
Oct 1 2000 – June 30 2001	July 1 2001 – June 30 2002	July 1 2002 – June 30 2003
=25% * \$32 000	= 25% * \$26 000	=25% * \$19 500
= \$8 000 * 9/12	=\$6 500	=\$4 875
=\$6 000		
OR \$4687.50 , \$6250 OR \$2,000 = 1	Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 17 375

2 marks

1.6.2 General Ledger (extract only) of The Happy Camper Complete the account

DISPOSAL OF TRUCK

Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$	Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$
30 June	Truck	32 000	30 June	Acc. Dep. Trunk	17 375 0
				Creditors/Bank/Truck	12 000
				Loss on Sale	2 625
		32 000			32 000

DISPOSAL OF TRUCK/CARRYING COST

Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$	Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$
30 June	Truck	32 000	30 June	Acc. Dep. Trunk	17 375 c
				P/L Summary	14 625

PROCEEDS FORM SALE OF ASSSET

Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$	Date 2003	Particulars	Amount \$
30 June	P/L Summary	12 000	30 June	Truck/Creditors	12 000

3 marks

1.7 State one accounting principle/concept which would support the business revaluing the land. Justify your answer.

Accounting Principle or Concept Conservatism/Relevance

Justification Anticipating a loss

Must state WHY – more relevant for decision making OR more relevant to the user or relate to ratios

2 marks

Total 18 marks

Question 2 - Soap 'n' Suds

2.1

Calculation	Dei	otors	
		Bad Debts 2 000	
	Cr. Sales 240 000	Bank 239 000 Bal 34 000	
		Bal 34 000	
		Cash received from debtors	\$ 239 000

2 marks

2.2

Calculation	Creditors		Inventory	
Bank 501 000 Bal 32 000		Bal 80 000 Cred 488 000	Cogs 500 000 Drawings 3 000 Bal 65 000	_
		Cash paid to	creditors	\$ 501 000

3 marks

2.3

Calculation	Operating Ex. 190 000	
	less Bad Debts 2 000	
	less Depreciation 4 000	
	less Acc. Expenses 1 000	
	plus Prepaid Exp. 3 500	
	Cash paid for operating expenses	\$ 186 500

2 marks

2.4 Soap n Suds Cash Flow from Operations for Year Ended 31 December 2001

Inflows		
Receipts from Cash Sales	560 000	
Receipts from Debtors	239 000 c	799 000
Outflows		
Payments to Creditors	501 000 c	
Payments to expenses	186 500 c	687 500
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities		111 500

2 marks

2.5 State how the capital contribution would be treated in the Cash Flow Statement. Justify your answer.

Classification Cash inflow from Financing

Justification Capital contributions to the business by the owner is one form of (equity) finance – to help finance the operations of the business \mathbf{OR} changes in financial structure \mathbf{OR} how the business is financed \mathbf{OR} change in equity.

2.6.1 Soap 'n' Suds Profit and Loss Statement for Year Ended 31 December 2002

	Dishwasher Sales	Service Centre	Total
Sales/Service Fees	900 000	100 000	1 000 000
Less Cost of Sales/Materials	560 000	27 000	587 000
Gross Profit/Margin on Service	340 000	73 000	413 000
Less DIRECT EXPENSES			
Wages	108 000	36 000	144 000
Occupancy	24 000	3 000	27 000
Vehicle Expenses	4 200	9 800	14 000
Loss on Sale of Vehicle	6 000		6 000
			191 000
Contribution Margin			222 000
Less INDIRECT EXPENSES			
Wages			36 000
Advertising			15 000
Occupancy			3 000
Office Administration			16 000
			70 000
Net Profit			152 000

2 + 2 = 4 marks

2.6.2 Explain how not allocating the advertising expense may affect the usefulness of the Contribution Margin as an indicator of departmental performance.

Explanation The non inclusion of advertising as a direct expense could lead to a distorted reported contribution margin for each department. This may lead to inequity when judging performance (i.e. will result in an overstated margin).

2 marks

2.6.3 Explain the comment that the Loss on Sale of Vehicle is the result of under depreciation

Explanation As depreciation is the allocation of the cost of an asset over its useful life, this statement is correct in that the allocation – calculated at the time of purchase – proved to be incorrect. This will only be proved/identified at the time of the disposal of the asset.

OR the asset was sold for less than its book value/carrying cost

OR due to the fact that depreciation is based on estimated

OR scrap value was overestimated OR overestimate the life of the asset

2 marks

Total 19 marks

3.1 Office Essentials Profit and Loss Statement for Year Ended 30 June 2002

	Budget	Actual	Variance	F/U*
Sales	450 000	470 000	20 000	
Cost of Sales	<u>250 000</u>	<u>290 000</u>	40 000	U
Gross Profit	200 000	180 000	20 000	
Stock Loss	<u>4 500</u>	<u>1 500</u>	3 000	
Adjusted Gross Profit	195 500	178 500	17 000	
less Expenses				
Wages	55 000	49 000	6 000	
Advertising	10 000	10 500	500	U
Rent	20 000	20 000	_	
Office	8 000	7 000	1 000	
Depreciation – Vehicle	<u>10 000</u>	7 000	3 000	
Total Expenses	103 000	93 500	9 500	
Operating Profit	92 500	85 000	7 500	
Other Revenue				
Profit on Sale of Vehicle	_	9 000	9 000	
Net Profit	92 500	94 000	1 500	

^{*}F = Favourable U = Unfavourable

2 marks

3.2 The owner is pleased that the business has exceeded budget expectations. <u>Explain</u> one reason from the <u>information provided</u> why the owner should <u>not</u> be happy.

Explanation Operating profits were below because Gross profit was down because despite the increase in sales (\$20 000), COGS increased a lot more (\$40 000) **OR** The net profit was achieved due to the profit on sale of asset which was not expected as is not recurrent As they had not budgeted for the sale of an asset

2 marks

3.3.1 Office Essentials Budgeted Profit and Loss Statement for Year Ended 30 June 2003

Sales		510 000
Less Cost of Sales		306 000
Gross Profit		204 000
Less Expenses		
Wages	51 000	
Advertising	15 300	
Depreciation – Vehicle	11 000	
Rent	20 000	
Office Expense	7 000	104 300
Operating Profit		99 700
Other Revenue		
Office Rent Revenue		2 000
Net Profit		101 700

3.3.2 Explain how this budget should be used by the business during the year.

Explanation As a basis for comparison with actual results to identify trends and allow remedial action where appropriate. To check/assess against targets set.

2 marks

3.4.1 Explain why the decline in WCR may indicate a deterioration in the liquidity of the business.

Explanation The WCR indicates the value of short-term assets available to meet short-term liabilities. Over the course of the year in question: the availability of short-term (liquid) assets ready to meet short-term financial obligations has declined.

2 marks

3.4.2 State one limitation of using the working capital ratio as an indicator of business liquidity.

Limitation May not easily be able to convert current assets (debtors and stock) into cash at short notice in order to meet short-term commitments/obligations **OR** difficulty of only relying on ratios **OR** ratios based on historical data **OR** timing issue – re cash cycle or debtors and creditors terms or buy on credit and sell for cash

1 mark

3.5.1 GENERAL JOURNAL

Date 2002	Accounts	Debit \$	Credit \$
31 July	Stock write down	1 000	
	Stock		1 000

2 marks

3.5.2

Calculation		
	Item A 400 @ $$25 = 10000	
Consequential for 3.5.1	Item B $100 \ $ @ $\$6 = \$600 $	
1600 – 3.5.1 response for Item B	Item C 2000 @ \$8 = \$16 000	
	Value of stock	\$ 26 600

2 marks

3.5.3 Explain your valuation of Stock Item A

Explanation Stock is valued at the Lower of Cost and Net Realisable Value, applying the principle of Conservatism. In the case of stock item A, cost is clearly less than selling (net realisable) value.

2 marks

3.5.4

Calculation		
	Open Bal 400 @ \$25 = \$10 000	
OR 198 @ 30	7/8 Purch. 100 @ \$26 = \$2 600	
42 @ 26 = 1 mark	19/8 Sold 400 @ \$25	
	50 @ \$26 = \$11 300	
	23/8 Purch 200 @ \$30 = \$6 000	
	27/8 Draw 2 @ \$26 = \$52	
When in doubt -1 mark for each error	31/8 Loss 8 @ \$26 = \$208	
the student makes	31/8 Bal 40 @ \$26	
	200 @ \$30 = \$7 040	
	Value of stock	\$ 7 040

3.5.5 Statement of Gross Profit (adjusted) on Stock Item A for August 2002

	\$ \$
Sales	22 500
Less Cost of Goods Sold	11 300
Gross Profit	11 200
Less Stock Loss	208
Adjusted Gross Profit	10 992

2 marks

Total 23 marks