

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH **EXAMINATIONS**



English for Finance Examination: General Description

PART 1

Listening

(approx. 10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice

Format: ten unrelated dialogues of about 30 seconds' duration, each followed by a 3-option multiple

choice item

The candidates listen to a short dialogue, then choose the correct statement from three that are based on the dialogue. The recordings are dialogues between two interacting speakers (conversations, interviews, discussions, etc.).

Task Focus: identifying detail, understanding and interpreting information, specific information, gist,

detail, main idea, function, purpose, attitude, opinion, etc. Marking Scheme: 10 items x 2 points = 20 points

NOTE: Each part is heard twice.

PART 2

Knowledge of **Linguistic Means** (15 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice

Format: 18 4-option multiple choice sentences

Task Focus: lexical

Marking Scheme: 18 items x 2 points = 36 points

Topic areas: office equipment and management; banking and stock trading; front/middle/back office operations; bank services; P&L accounts; central banks operations; international organizations; stock markets and shares; types of investments; economic indicators/theories; financial documents; insurance claims; sales forecasts; operations control; laws and regulations; business relationships; cash and numbers; changes in value; types of businesses; types of costs/loans; budgets; supply, demand and prices; jobs in financial sector

PART 3

Knowledge of **Language Functions** (10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice

Format: 16 2-option multiple choice exchanges

Task Focus: lexico-grammatical

Marking Scheme: 16 items x 1 point = 16 points

Functions: describing location/condition/a problem/changes in value/possible events/skills and traits/ an experience/progress/possibilities/responsibilities; giving reasons/advice; making an appointment/ suggestions/predictions/a list; gathering information; correcting an error; greeting customers; explaining causes/costs/terms; asking for more detail; adding information; clarifying information; listing pros and cons; discussing risk; changing topics; hedging a response/an opinion; confirming information; expressing doubt/an opinion; reassuring customers; offering congratulations/products; supporting an idea/an argument; bringing up a topic; talking about future events; stating agreement; checking for understanding

PART 4

Reading (10 minutes) Task type: Multiple choice - True/False/Doesn't say

Format: Three short texts (60-100 words each) containing factual information related to the field of finance; the first two texts are followed by two 3-option multiple choice questions each, while the third text is followed by two True/False/Doesn't say questions.

Task Focus: understanding detail, specific information, implication, attitude, reference and meaning

Marking Scheme: 6 items x 3 points = 18 points

NOTE: All the texts are related to the specific field of study.

PART 5

Writing Awareness (15 minutes)

Task type: A gapped or jumbled text of approx. 200 words

Format: Gapped text - a text with five gaps to be filled with either one sentence from a choice of three or, one pair of sentences from a choice of six or, an appropriate word or, information from two short texts. Jumbled text - seven or eight paragraphs, of which five are to be organized into a text.

Task Focus: recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of study

Marking Scheme: 5 items x 2 points = 10 points

NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete a business email, a memo, an article from a financial magazine, a CV, a chart, an extract from financial notes, a bank document, a stockmarket analysis, a catalog, a financial advice column, an extract from cash rules, a job posting, an email analyzing finances, a newspaper article, a website page, an economics textbook excerpt, a blog post, a payment slip, a balance sheet, or financial rules & regulations. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce in

the field of finance for professional purposes.

Duration: 60 minutes

Marks: TOTAL: 100 points