



Qualification Programme

Associate Module 7 Financial Management

Pilot Examination Paper

Time Allowed	2 hours 30 minutes		
Examination Assessment Allocation			
Objective Type / Task-based Questions	100 Marks	All questions are compulsory	

This pilot examination paper simulates a typical examination paper that assesses candidates' core foundational technical knowledge of the subject matters, and their skills in applying the knowledge to tackle routine professional problems, including computations. Mark(s) for each question is set in accordance with its level of difficulty.

The sample questions in this paper are to help candidates familiarise themselves with the form and style of questions which they may see in the Module 7 examination. The sample questions and answers are for reference only, and the content may not have been updated to reflect any changes in relevant standards or legislation.

You should answer **all questions** in this paper and allocate approximately 1.5 minutes for each mark.



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SECTION A – OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS (Total 41 marks)

Answer **ALL** questions in this section. Together they are worth 41% of the total marks for this examination. Answers must be written in full; short forms and abbreviations may not be awarded marks.

1 Assume the returns on Stock HD were positive in January, March, May, June, July and November. The other months the returns on Stock HD were positive in January, February, May, July, September, November and December, and negative in the remain months.	
Analyse which one of the following correlation coefficients best describes the relationship between Stock HD and Stock LD.	(2 marks)
A1.0B0.5C. 0.0D. 1.0	
2 Slow Growth Company is currently paying an annual dividend of HK\$2.50 per share. The company is experiencing financial recession and goin downsize its outdated operations. The company is decreasing its dividend by 3% annually.	g to
	(2 marks)
A. HK\$19.12B. HK\$19.40C. HK\$20.23D. HK\$20.67	
3 Determine which of the following statement(s) is/are correct in relation to the Du Pont system.	
(1) It analyses the reasons why a firm's return on equity is satisfactory or unsatisfactory.	
(2) It analyses the operating efficiency of a firm.	
(3) It analyses the asset use efficiency of a firm.	
(4) It analyses the rate of return on a firm's assets.	(2 marks)
 A. (1) and (3) only. B. (2) and (4) only. C. (1), (2), and (3) only. D. All of the above 	
4 Beauty Boutique has a total asset turnover rate of 1.25, an equity multiplier of 1.42, a profit margin of 5%, a retention ratio of 0.8, and total asset HK\$124,500.	ts of
Determine the company's sustainable growth rate.	(2 marks)
A. 5.85%B. 6.27%C. 7.64%D. 7.10%	



5 Playful Toys Company Limited has a new toy car model for the upcoming Christmas holiday. The selling price of the toy car will be set at HK\$180, a	
the company intends to earn a target operating income of 15% of sales. Calculate the target cost per unit for the new toy car. (2 n	narks)
○ A. HK\$176	
○ B. HK\$184	
○ C. HK\$164	
O. HK\$153	
6 Determine which of the following statements is correct.	
	arks)
A. Bonds with longer maturity are subject to less interest rate risk than bonds with shorter maturity.	
B. Zero coupon bonds are subject to more interest rate risk as compared with coupon-bearing bonds with the same maturity.	
C. Bonds with higher coupon rate are subject to more interest rate risk than those with lower coupon rate.	
D. If interest rates raise, bond prices will decrease, and the falling prices will be more significant for bonds with less interest rate risk.	
7 Company D and Company E are both profitable, and they have the same total assets, sales revenue, return on assets, and profit margin. However,	
Company D uses more debt finance for its business operations.	
Determine which of the following statements is correct.	
(2 n	marks)
A. Company E has a greater total assets turnover than Company D.	
B. Company E has more operating profits than Company D.	
C. Company E has lower fixed assets turnover than Company D.	
O. Company E has a lesser return on equity than Company D.	
8 Determine which of the following will occur if the required rate of return equals the internal rate of return.	
8 Determine which of the following will occur if the required rate of return equals the internal rate of return. (2 m	narks)
(2 m	narks)
(2 m	narks)
(2 m A. The net present value will be larger than zero. B. The profitability index will equal 1.0.	narks)
(2 m	narks)
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	onomic Value Added (EVA®) is a specific form of		Available items:
	ljustments to correct accounting numbers distort		TA A
econo	mic profit rather than accounting profit in a given	ı year.	_EVA®
	are and contrast EVA® with RI. Match the approp	riate descriptions to each	RI
financ	ial performance measure.	(5 marks)	
(i)	It is an absolute performance measure that	[Thanks)	EVA® and RI
	does not allow a clear comparison of	1	
	performance between divisions.		
(ii)	It involves less sophisticated computation.		
(11)	t inverves less seprinsticuted computation.	L	
(iii)	It is more useful to shareholders as it allows real cost comparisons.		
	real cost compansons.		
(iv)	It takes tax concerns into consideration when	[
	calculating income and cost of capital.		
(v)	It is more directly relevant to the objective of		
(*)	maximising owners' wealth, and in return,	L	
	should enable goal congruence between the		
	divisional and corporate goals to be achieved in a more efficient manner.		
	in a more emcient manner.		
	all companies face risk; risk and reward are c try rely heavily on risk management to bear		lead to business failure. In particular, companies operating in the investment
lunatife	why effective risk management can add va	lue to any examination	
Justiii			
	willy effective fisk management can add va	nue to any organization.	
	all correct answers.	nue to any organization.	
		nue to any organization.	(2 marks)
	all correct answers.		
Selec	all correct answers. It protects an organisation's capital struc	ture and profit generating at	
Selection A	all correct answers. It protects an organisation's capital struc. Investors are more willing to invest in co	ture and profit generating al rporates.	bility without hindering growth.
Selection A	all correct answers. It protects an organisation's capital struc Investors are more willing to invest in core The organisation can easier access to fur	ture and profit generating al rporates. nding with lower borrowing o	bility without hindering growth.
Selection A	all correct answers. It protects an organisation's capital structure. Investors are more willing to invest in contract the organisation can easier access to fur	ture and profit generating al rporates. nding with lower borrowing o	bility without hindering growth.
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Selection Select	all correct answers. It protects an organisation's capital structors. Investors are more willing to invest in column and the organisation can easier access to fure. The organisation can improve financial putline any three financial risk management approara	ture and profit generating al rporates. Iding with lower borrowing o performance.	oility without hindering growth.
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	cribe how each form of EMH predicts the future the market.	share price forecast to	Available items: Weak-form efficiency	
Match th	ne appropriate description to each EMH.			
	Technical analysis is of no use, and the efforts of technical analysts are of no benefit to investors to beat the market.	(3 marks)	Semi strong-form efficiency Strong-form efficiency	
	The current stock price reflects all information, public as well as private, and investors will not be able to earn excess returns to beat the market as a result.			
	Fundamental analysis using publicly available information is of no benefit, and most of the financial analysts and mutual fund managers are not providing any value to beat the market.			
16 Det	termine the form of EMH for the Hong Kong Sto	ck Exchange.	(2 mar	·ks)
○ A.	Weak-form efficiency			
О В.	Semi strong-form efficiency			
○ c.	Strong-form efficiency			
O D.	All of the above			
А. В. С.	It should be carried out independently without It should be based solely on competitors' pricir It should be carried out in relation to the gener It should focus exclusively on maximizing short	considering other business fac ig. al business objectives and linke	(2 ma	arks)
18 De	termine which of the following are comm	on pricing objectives.		
Select a	all correct answers.		(2 ma	rks)
A.	Increasing sales volume, sales revenue, o	or market share		
□ B.	Achieving a specific rate of return on sale	es or investment		
C.	Achieving or maintaining price leadersh	ip		
D.	Matching competitors' prices or gaining	a competitive advantage		
E.	Enhancing the image of the business, pr	oduct, or service		
F.	Surviving in a challenging market place			
G.	Maximizing employee satisfaction regard	dless of profitability		
П.	Setting prices to ensure all customers ca	n afford the product		

* * * END OF SECTION A * * *



SECTION B -TASK-BASED QUESTIONS (Total: 59 marks)

Answer **ALL** questions in this section. Together they are worth 59% of the total marks for this examination. Answers must be written in full; short forms and abbreviations may not be awarded marks.

19 When Smart Investments Company Limited ("Smart Investments") formed three divisions a year ago, the President informed the division managers that an annual bonus would be rewarded to the most profitable division, assessed by either the return on investment ("ROI") or residual income ("RI") of the division.

All the assets are long-lived operating assets that were acquired 15 years ago and have 15 years of useful life remaining with zero terminal disposal value. Smart Investments' minimum required rate of return used for determining RI is 15%.

Budgeted operating performance for 2019 for each of the three investment divisions are as follows:

Divisions	Operating Income	Operating Assets	
	(HK\$)	(HK\$)	
A - Stocks & Bonds	15,000,000	100,000,000	
B - Derivatives	25,000,000	125,000,000	
C - Real Properties	11,000,000	50,000,000	

Smart Investments is considering a new renovation project to modernise aging facilities of the corporate by purchasing new sets of equipment for each of the three investment divisions. The new equipment is expected to cost HK\$25,000,000 for each Division, which supports the corporate strategy of competing on the basis of quality service and customer response timing. The new investment is also expected to increase the operating income of each Division by HK\$4,500,000 next year, which is an acceptable return on investment from the standpoint of the corporate management.

(a) Determine the curre	ent ROI and RI for each division.	(3 marks)
Current ROI (Input your	r answers in decimal form, round to two decimal places.)	(3 marks)
Division A =		
Division B =		
Division C=		
Current RI (Round your	answers to the nearest dollar.)	
Division A = HK\$		
Division B = HK\$		
Division C = HK\$		
(b) Construct new divis	sional ROI and RI after incorporating the renovation project for each division.	(3 marks)
New ROI (Input your ar	nswers in decimal form, round to two decimal places.)	(3 marks)
Division A =	[
Division B =		
Division C =	}	
	h	
	swers to the nearest dollar.)	
Division A = HK\$		
Division B = HK\$		
Division C = HK\$!	

(c) Assu	ming the Di	ivision Managers a	re assessed by R	l, determine wh	ich Division(s) is/ are pleased with the new project.
Select all	correct ans	swers.			(2 marks)
\bigcap Λ	Division A				(<u>-</u> ,
_	Division A				
_	Division B				
_	Division C				
D.	None of the	e above			
(d) Dete	rmine why	RI is considered a n	nore appropriat	e measure than	ROI for evaluating investment projects.
Select all	correct ans	swers.			
					(2 marks)
A.	RI prompts	managers to accep	ot projects with I	nigher rates of r	eturn than the cost of invested capital.
□ В.	RI is based I	largely on individua	al judgment.		
C.	Using ROI,	divisional manager	s may reject nev	v investments th	nat could decrease their existing ROI.
D.	RI may be n	nore accurate wher	applied in larg	er divisions.	
_					interested in learning some of the basic company's backgrounds of the two famous
allows co moments and links You are g	nnecting w , photo sha to news or oing to app	ith family & friends iring, games and m other interesting co oly your finance kno	across countrie ore. On the oth ontent on the W owledge in the r	es boundlessly. I ler hand, FacePa leb, play games,	that over 900 million people are using WeTalk, the free messaging & calling app that t's an all-in-one communications app for free text (SMS/MMS), voice & video calls, ge is a social networking platform where users can post comments, share photographs chat live, and even stream live video. world by assessing the risk and return of the two internet platform stocks, WeTalk and
FacePage	with the fo	llowing informatio	n:		
C1 1 C	_	Probability of	Rate of return	if state occurs	
State of	Economy	State of Economy	WeTalk	FacePage	
Recessio		20%	5%	-13%	
Boomin	g	50%	19%	22%	
Normal		30%	16%	15%	
					5. Treasury Bill is currently yielding 3%. dual stock, WeTalk and FacePage, respectively. (Input your answers in decimal form,
round	to two ded	cimal places.)			(6 marks)
Expected	return of V	VeTalk =			, ,
Expected	return of F	acePage =		===	
Beta coef	fficient of W	/eTalk =			
Beta coef	fficient of Fa			===	
(b) Based	d on the ans	swers in part (a), ca	Iculate the total	risk for both W	eTalk and FacePage. (Input your answers in decimal form, round to two decimal places.) (4 marks)
Total risk	of WeTalk	= [(Thurs)
Total risk	of FacePag				



(c) Based on the results in parts (a) and (b), analyse which stock, WeTalk or FacePage, is risker and thus, should have a higher risk premium and great expected return.	er
Stock FacePage has more total risk than WeTalk.	(1 mark)
○ A. True	
O B. False	
(d) Stock FacePage has more systematic risk than WeTalk.	(1 mark)
A. True	
O B. False	
(e) Stock FacePage has more unsystematic risk than WeTalk.	(1 mark)
A. True	
O B. False	
(ff) Since systematic risk can be diversified, WeTalk is actually the risker stock and should have a higher risk premium and a greater expected return.	(1 mark)
A. True	
○ B. False	
_	

21 HighTek Company ("HighTek") is a renowned manufacturer and distributor of electronic devices for mobile phones. Thanks to some successful new products marketed to manufacturers of 5G mobile phones, HighTek has recently been experiencing a period of explosive growth with its sales revenues more than doubling over the last two years. However, this growth has been coupled with a significant decline in profitability and a sharp plunge in HighTek's share price.

Rosanna, a financial consultant, is approached to analyse HighTek's financial performance and find out the reasons behind the situation before advising any remedial actions. The investigative plan involves conducting a series of in-depth interviews with the company's management team and performing some independent research on the industry's average performance. After determining the key ratios for the past three years, Rosanna starts by analysing trends in each ratio and compares each of them with the industry players as shown below:

Ratio Analysis of the HighTek Company					
	Industry Average	20X1	20X2	20X3	
Current Ratio	4.6	4.1	4.6	5.3	
Quick Ratio	3.2	2.9	3.8	4.0	
Average Collection Period	42 days	40 days	60 days	68 days	
Inventory Turnover	7.5X	7.0X	6.0X	5.0X	
Fixed Asset Turnover	1.6X	1.7X	1.6X	2.1X	
Total Asset Turnover	1.2X	1.3X	1.5X	1.6X	
Debt Ratio	53%	56%	66%	75%	
Debt to Equity Ratio	1:1	1.1:1	1.8:1	2.1:1	
Times Interest Earned	4.5X	5.5X	3.3X	1.8X	
Return on Assets (ROA)	10.8%	15.0%	7.1%	3.0%	
Return on Equity (ROE)	23.3%	33.5%	21.9%	12.0%	
Equity Multiplier	2.1	2.3	2.9	3.3	

You are Rosanna Lee, the financial consultant. From the available financial information, analyse the financial performance and justify messages or reasons behind the following aspects of the HighTek Company with reference to the industry average over the past three years in a memorandum format addressed to the company.



(a) Determine which of the following ratios measure a company's liquidity.	
Select all correct answers.	(2 marks)
A. Current Ratio	
B. Quick Ratio	
C. Average Collection Period	
D. Inventory Turnover	
E. Fixed Asset Turnover	
F. Total Asset Turnover	
(b) Determine which of the following ratios measure a company's debt management and long-term solvency.	
Select all correct answers.	(2)
	(2 marks)
A. Total Asset Turnover	
B. Debt Ratio	
C. Debt to Equity Ratio	
D. Times Interest Earned	
E. Return on Assets	
F. Return on Equity	
(c) Determine the liquidity situation of the company.	
Select the correct answer to the following questions.	
The liquidity situation of the company appears to be healthy.	
	(1 mark)
A. True	
O B. False	
(d) This is evidenced by the decreasing current and quick ratios over the past period.	(1 mark)
A. True	
B. False	
(e) Determine which of the following ratios measure a company's ability to generate profits.	
Select all correct answers.	(2 marks)
A. Return on Assets	
B. Return on Equity	
C. Current Ratio	
D. Inventory Turnover	
E. Fixed Asset Turnover	
(f) Identify which of the following statements correctly explain the current asset management situation of the company.	(2 marks)
A. The average collection period of the trade receivables of the company is lengthening dramatically. This is a good signal indicating that to is probably selling to a group of good credit-worthiness rated customers on credit.	he company
B. The average collection period of the trade receivables of the company is shortening dramatically. This is a bad signal indicating that the probably selling to a group of poor credit-worthiness rated customers on credit.	company is
C. Total asset turnover ratio also looks bad even after considering a possible overstatement of some current assets.	
D. None of above.	



(g) Determine what does the increase in debt management ratios signify in this scenario.	(2 marks)
A. The company is efficiently managing its debts.	(2 ///6//6)
B. The company is borrowing at a slower rate than its growth.	
C. The company is borrowing faster than its growth, leading to increased risk.	
D. The company has successfully reduced its reliance on debt financing.	
b. The company has successfully reduced its reliance on debt infancing.	
(h) Select all statements that accurately reflect the current situation.	(2 marks)
A. The decreasing times interest earned ratio puts the long-term solvency situation of the company in danger.	
B. It echoes the market reaction to the company's leverage problem as reflected in its slumping share price.	
C. Increasing the equity multiplier ratio is a sign of reduced leverage burden.	
D. Leverage is beneficial for a firm during periods of low profitability.	
E. The financial results of HighTek are poor and getting worse, the high level of debt finance imposes a significant threat to its lo	ng-term solvency.
(j) Determine the profitability situation of the company.	
Select the correct answer.	
ROE still remains to be 12% which seems to be an unacceptable return. However, after a closer investigation, it is not due to the fact to of risk inherented in the industry in general, and in this company in particular, as compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 23 compared with the industry average ROE of about 25 compared with the industry average ROE	
A. True	
B. False	
b. Tuise	
Ulbar Technology Company Limited ("UTC") is planning to invest in a potential project, "Water Taxi". The risks associated with the comparable to the risks of UTC's current operations. The proposed project will incur an initial cost of HK\$17.2 million that will be depressed over ten years. The project also requires additional expenditure for repairs and maintenance of HK\$678,000 annually over the produced of HK\$4.78 million and year over its 10-year life. The initial investment straight-line basis over the life of the project. At the end of the ten years, the firm expects to sell the trucks and facilities for HK\$1.3 million and the trucks ar	eciated on a straight-line roject's life. t will be depreciated on a
You are the Chief Financial Officer of UTC estimating the discount rate, which is the cost of capital, for capital budgeting appraisal. The UTC with related market information are given below:	e financial information of
Common stock: There are 285 million shares outstanding selling for HK\$26.50 per share. The stock has a beta coefficient of 1.65.	
Preferred stock: 35 million shares selling at HK\$75 per share, with dividend rate of 4.5% and face value of HK\$100.	
Debt: Five years ago, the company issued 5 million 15-year annual coupon bonds with par value of HK\$1,000 each that are still outstar rate is 6%. The total market value of the coupon bonds are currently selling at HK\$4,699,417,007.	nding now. Its coupon
Market: The current U.S. Treasury Bill yields 3% and the expected return on the market is 9.5%. The company is in the 35% corporate to	ax bracket.
(a) Compute the cost of equity and the cost of preferred stock. (Round your answers to 2 decimal places.)	(4 marks)
Cost of equity = %	
Cost of preferred stock = 9%	
(b) Compute the pre-tax cost of debt for UTC.	(2 marks)
A. 9.5%	
B. 4.45%	
C. 6%	
D. 6.85%	



(c) Assuming that UTC is going to maintair company. (Round your answers to the n		pute the total market value of equity, preferred stock and cost of debt	for the
	r		(2 marks)
Total market value of equity is	HK\$		
Total market value of preferred stock is	HK\$		
Total market value of cost of debt is	HK\$		
Total market value of equity, preferred stoc	k and cost of debt is HK\$		
	· i		
(d) Assuming that UTC is going to maintain	n the current capital structure, com	pute the weighted average cost of capital ("WACC") for the company.	(2 marks)
A. 4.62%			(=)
B. 9.44%			
C. 9.50%			
D. 10.19%			
0 21 1011070			
(e) Produce the forecast cash flows genera	ted in Year 10, in the form of a pro-	-forma statement of profit or loss, for project "Water Taxi" of UTC.	(6
Forecasted cash flow for Year 10			(6 marks)
	HK\$		
Revenue/Cash inflows	4,780,000		
Less:			
Earnings before tax			
Less: Tax			
Earnings after tax			
Add:			
Operating cash flow			
Add: Residual value of trucks and facilities			
Net cash flow			
_			
(f)Based on the result in part (e), calculate	the net present value ("NPV") of Pr	roject "Water Taxi".	(2 marks)
A. (HK\$ 9,363,400)			
B. HK\$ 3,902,096			
C. HK\$ 5,013,675			
D. HK\$ 9,363,400			
<u> </u>			
(g) Determine whether UTC should accept	or reject the project accordingly.		(2 marks)
A. As the NPV of the project is positive	e, UTC should accept the project.		
B. As the NPV of the project is positive	e, UTC should not accept the project	ct.	
C. As the NPV of the project is negative	e, UTC should accept the project.		
D. As the NPV of the project is negative.		ect.	





Associate Module 7 Financial Management Pilot Paper

Answers

The purpose of the suggested answers is meant to help candidates in their revision and learning.



Questions	Answers	Marks Allocation
1	С	2
2	В	2
3	D	2
4	D	2
5	D	2
6	В	2
7	D	2
8	В	2
9	D	2
10	A	2
11	(i) EVA® and RI (ii) RI (iii) EVA® (iv) EVA® (v) EVA®	5
12	A,B,C,D	2
13	Acceptance/ Avoidance/ Ignorance/ Mitigation/ Transfer/ Retention/ Reduction	3
14	A	2
15	(i) Weak-form efficiency(ii) Strong-form efficiency(iii) Semi strong-form efficiency	3
16	В	2
17	С	2
18	A,B,C,D,E,F	2
	Current ROI Division A = 0.15 Division B = 0.20 Division C = 0.22	3
19(a)	Current RI Division A = 0 Division B = 6,250,000 Division C = 3,500,000	
19(b)	New ROI Division A = 0.16 Division B = 0.20	3

Questions	Answers	Marks Allocation
	Division C = 0.21	
	New RI	
	Division A = 750,000	
	Division B = 7,000,000	
	Division C = 4,250,000	
19(c)	A,B,C	2
19(d)	A,C	2
	Expected return of WeTalk = 0.15	6
20(a)	Expected return of FacePage = 0.13	
20(a)	Beta coefficient of WeTalk = 1.23	
	Beta coefficient of FacePage = 0.99	
20(b)	Total risk of VeTalk = 0.05	4
20(c)	Total risk of FacePage = 0.13 True	1
	False	1
20(d)		1
20(e)	True	
20(f)	False	1
21(a)	A,B	2
21(b)	B,C,D	2
21(c)	True	1
21(d)	False	1
21(e)	A,B	2
21(f)	A	2
21(g)	С	2
21(h)	A,B,E	2
21(i)	False	1
22(a)	Cost of equity = 13.73%	4
	Cost of preferred stock = 6%	
22(b)	D	2
22 (c)	Total market value of equity is	2
	HK\$7,552,500,000	
	Total market value of preferred stock is	
	HK\$2,625,000,000 Total market value of cost of debt is	
	HK\$4,699,417,007	
	Total market value of equity, preferred stock	
	and cost of debt is HK\$14,876,917,007	



Questions	Answers		Marks Allocation
22 (d)	D		2
22 (e)	Revenue/ Cash inflows Less: Repairs and maintenance expense Depreciation Earnings before tax Less: Tax Earnings after tax Add: Depreciation Operating cash flow Add: Residual value of the truck Net cash flow	HK\$ 4,780,000 678,000	6
22 (f)	В		2
22 (g)	A		2