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# UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING RE-SIT/ SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2019

**DEGREE/ DIPLOMA AND** 

YEAR OF STUDY

B. COM I/ B.COM LEVEL 1/ LEVEL 3

TITLE OF PAPER

PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE

COURSE CODE

ACF114 (RE-SIT)/ AC213 (S) JULY 2019

TOTAL MARKS

100 MARKS

1

TIME ALLOWED

THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- There are four (4) questions, answer all.
- 2 Begin the solution to each question on a new page.
- 3 The marks awarded for a question are indicated at

the end of each question.

- 4 Show all the necessary workings.
- 5 Round off as you deem appropriate.

Note: You are reminded that in assessing your work, account will be taken of accuracy of the language and general quality of expression, together with layout and presentation of your answer.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVILATOR OR SUPERVISOR.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

CALCULATOR

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#### **QUESTION 1**

- a) You are provided with the following statements, some of which are True and some of which are False. Indicate whether each of the statements is True or False by writing the answer next to the question number.
  - i. A company that is set up with a profit motive will not have non-financial objectives. (2 Marks)
  - ii. The agency problem can be avoided by rewarding managers with share options. (2 Marks)
  - iii. The external environment is within the control of the financial manager.(2 Marks)
  - iv. The Eswatini Central Bank can boost economic growth by reducing interest rates. (2 Marks)
  - v. The most important threat facing companies in light of globalization is increased competition. (2 Marks)
- b) Gables Limited which has a factory in Matsapha decided to cut costs by retrenching 200 factory workers. The Directors of Gables has argued that the reduction in costs will enhance the wealth of the shareholders which is their main objective as the management of the company.

You are required to explain the implication of retrenching factory workers as a way of maximizing the wealth of the shareholders to the Management of Gables



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Limited and to show how such a decision could affect them in the long run.

(5 Marks)

c) Briefly explain four differences between bonds and ordinary shares as financial instruments for raising capital. (8 Marks)

Total: (25 Marks)

37

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**QUESTION 2** 

a) Natex Limited needs funds for a big project that the company has recently

identified in SADAC region. In order for the company to determine what the most

appropriate financial instruments is to use to raise the funds needed, the company

must ask itself certain questions. Briefly discuss the questions that are pertinent to

ask when an organization is in need of finance. (20 Marks)

b) Distinguish between diversifiable risk and non-diversifiable risk. (5 Marks)

Total: (25 Marks)

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## **QUESTION 3**

Share prices of ordinary shares in the financial markets have been observed to fluctuate with up or down ward swings. These movements seem to be a reaction of the stock market on various issues that affect share prices.

Discuss five of these factors that affect share prices in the stock market. (25 Markets)

# **QUESTION 4**

a) Charles Dlamini has inherited a large amount of money from his deceased grandfather. He wants to invest this money in a portfolio consisting of 50% of share Knox Ltd and 50% of share of Celton Ltd.

Shares Knox Ltd and Celton Ltd have the following historic returns.

Year	Knox Ltd	Celton Ltd
2014	10%	8%
2015	18%	20%
2016	25%	23%
2017	14%	12%
2018	20%	18%

Charles has approached you to assist him in making the most optimal investment decision. You may assume that the historic risk and return pattern as reflected in the data will be sustained in the future.

Charles has heard that if he keeps adding more and more shares to his portfolio, the standard deviation of his portfolio will eventually decrease to zero.

#### Required:

i. Calculate the average portfolio return for the period under review. (5 Marks)

- ii. Without performing calculations, indicate whether the correlation coefficient between return on shares on Knox Ltd and Celton Ltd would be closer to +0.9 or to -0.9. Motivate your answer. (5 Marks)
- iii. Would a combination of share between Knox Ltd and Celton Ltd be good for diversification? Without performing calculations, motivate your answer.(5 Marks)
- Nokuthula Dlamini is certain that she will graduate five years from today and would like to buy herself a laptop at that time. Computronics (Pty) Limited informed her that the laptop model she is interested in will cost E30 000 at the future date. If Nokuthula Dlamini can earn interest at 12% per annum compounded annually in a savings account, how much must she deposit into the savings account today? (5 Marks)
- Mary Khumalo wants to deposit E15 000 at the end of each year into a special savings account for five years. The bank has promised her a rate of interest of 10% per annum compounded annually on her savings, how much money will she have at the end of her savings term? (5 Marks)

**Total: 25 Marks** 

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Fundamentals of Finance

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Table 4: Present value of an annuity of R1 per period for n periods