

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF SRI LANKA

# **SE1-** Communication and People Skills

# September 2018

# **Examiner's comments**

# **Question 01 – Reading**

Filling in blanks - A test from

Financial Accounting selecting the appropriate word from those given in the box. The selected words are all common to the subject - Finance and Accountancy. The question is very relevant and satisfactory but the candidates' performance is poor.

#### Marks out of 5

# **Question 02 - Comprehension and Vocabulary**

Correction of errors in language this paragraph is also related to Accounting and Finance. It is a good question as it tests the candidates' knowledge of using the correct word in the correct situation but scoring was poor.

#### Marks out of 5

# **Question 03 - Comprehension**

The passage given is an inaugural speech adapted from an article in a daily newspaper. It was interesting and authentic. Most candidates have not been able to pick out the correct answers. As the specific paragraph containing the answer has been pin pointed. Most have written entire paragraphs scoring is not satisfactory.

#### Marks out of 12

# **Question 04 - Comprehension**

The given passage is very interesting and it was easy to score as the candidates did not have to write in complete sentences. There were only a few minor errors in grammar and punctuation and the scoring of marks was good.

#### Marks out of 10

# Section II

## **Question 05 - Writing - Graph Reading**

The given question is a column graph displaying the enrolment figures of four study programs in Accounting for 5 years. The candidates were expected to compare the enrolment of the same program and different programs. Most candidates have not been able to pick up the salient points depicted in the graph. Most have mixed language with serious errors in grammar, which affected the meaning.

#### Marks out of 10

#### Question 06 - Writing an e -mail

Most candidates have not been able to compose a correct e - mail. Most have not understood the word "out bound". They have taken it to mean 'foreign'. Also most have thought this training program was meant for army personnel. The given instructions require to mention the components of the training session. But this has not been followed and they have just copied the question directly.

## Marks out of 8

## **Question 07 - Summary**

Candidates have not been able to pick out the salient points. Most have given sentences picked up at random. They have not used their own words and accuracy is poor. Grammar and vocabulary used for the summary contains serious basic errors.

#### Marks out of 10

#### **Question 08 - Report Writing**

Most candidates have followed the given data and written a good report. In general the weak point was the **body** section. Methodology and data collection have not been discussed. Also reasons for the low quality of the service and recommendations were not discussed.

#### Marks out of 10

# **Section III**

# **Question 09 - Listening**

#### **Question 10**

In this section where candidates had to listen and answer, they have failed miserably. More audio - video methods should be used when they follow classes. Poor listening, lack of vocabulary and word power was clearly visible. Here the scoring was very unsatisfactory.

#### 5 - 10 marks

The question paper is of very good standard. An average candidate could have scored very good marks. To reach this average level more reading practice and language study is necessary.