UEMOA

UNION ECONOMIQUE ET MONETAIRE OUEST AFRICAINE

DIPLOME D'ETUDES SUPERIEURES DE COMPTABILITE ET GESTION FINANCIERE DE L'UEMOA

(DESCOGEF)

SESSION MAI 2015-2016

EPREUVE : ANGLAIS

Durée :4 heures

EPREUVE D'ANGLAIS DU DIPLOME D'ETUDES SUPERIEURES DE COMPTABILITE ET GESTION FINANCIERE (DESCOGEF)

Instructions to candidates

- ✓ (a) The time allowed for this examination is 4 hours.
- ✓ (b) Answer all questions.
- ✓ (d) All answers must be clearly and correctly numbered but need not be in numerical order.
- ✓ (e) When you finish, check your work carefully.
- ✓ (f) The use of English dictionaries is not permitted.

I Reading Comprehension

Accountancy is in a sorry state. In America the country's seventh biggest firm, Laventhol&Howarth has filed for 11 bankruptcy. Ernst & Young, the mega merger of Arthur Young and Ernst & Young, has run advertisements reassuring clients that it is in a "very strong financial position". Auditors face a series a humiliating lawsuits from the savings and loans mess. Elsewhere accountancy firms seem to be a little healthier, but their trade has seldom enjoyed less esteem. In Britain, critics have pointed to fallen companies like Polly Peck, British & Commonwealth and Lewitt group and asked where the auditors were.

Accountants deserve most of the stick they are getting. Like advertising agencies and investment bankers, they fell for the 1980s fad of the service conglomerate. The big eight firms became the big six as they merged and remerged, struggling to push under one roof a whole range of business services, like tax advice, management consultancy, corporate finance.It encouraged them to cut auditing charges to win other business. When auditing becomes a loss leader, it is scarcely surprising that it gets done badly or misleadingly. Company accounts contain too many half-truths: loans that are hidden away "off balance L17 sheet"; brand names listed as assets - not at their cost not even at their market value but at an arbitrary figure somewhere between the two. The results? The balance sheet, particularly the British version, is a challenge to even the sharpest shareholder.

All accountants' problems have a common origin: they are no longer seen to be L22 impartial. Too often it looksas if they are bending over backwards to help the people who write their cheques, the managers, rather than thepeople who pay L24 for them, the shareholders. The problem can be tackled in two ways: through better standards, and through clearer rules about what auditors can and cannot for their clients. Auditors say they already have the terror of malpractice suits. L27 Better to remove the temtation altogether, first by rotating auditors (with, say, a limit of five years per company); and, second, by banning auditors from providing other services to the companies they check. Accountancy firms can continue to hawk consulting and the like to non-audit clients. After all, nobody objects to a referee playing for a team in a match that he is not supervising.

The economist, (abridged)

General understanding

1. Choose the correct title for the text:

A) Blowing the whistle on accountancy
B) Accountancy, a sector doing really well
C) Auditing, a booming sector

Detailed reading

2. List three problems that accountancy is facing according to the text.

   A) ______________________________

   B) ______________________________

   C) ______________________________

3. Why is auditing usually done in a bad andunreliable way?

   ____

4. Why is it difficult for a stakeholder to know the exact balance sheet of a company according to the text?(Circle the correct letter)

A) Because company accounts show many irregularities
B) Because company accounts do not always reveal the correct information about their transactions
C) Because company accounts usually have errors

Vocabulary and grammar

5. Look at line 22 of the last paragraph. Replace "**as if**"with one of the words below.(Circle the correct letter)

   A) similar
   B) the same
   C) like

6. Look at line 24 and write which word means "**investors**"

____

*Put the **underlined** word in the **negative** or **opposite** form*

1. The problem can be tackled.

____

2. The audit job is badly done.

____

3. Everybody expected a loss in annual income.

____

Match A,B,C,D with 1,2,3,4 using the correct word in the middle

A) Auditors shouldn't accept the work	**by**	1. a referee playing for a team that he is not supervising
B) An impartial auditor is	**if**	2. having better standards and clearer rules.
C) The impartiality problems auditors face can be resolved	**similar to**	3. they cannot do their job properly they.
D) Auditors cannot be impartial	**unless**	4. they change company every 5 years and stop offering other services to the companies they audit.

A	B	C	D

7. *Say whether these statements are true or false and justify your answer based on the text.*

A) The auditors of Polly Peck, British & Commonwealth and Lewitt group were blamed for the problems these companies went through.

True or False?

Justify your answer______________________________________

B) Accountants are no longer independent? True or False?

Justify your answer______________________________________

II TERMINOLOGY PRACTICE

A. Number the following words or expressions with thier underlined equivalentes in the text:

accuracy	1	external	
Annual General Meeting		implemented	
Board of directors		Ratified	
Checking		Shareholders (GB) Or stockholders (US)	
Deficiencies		Standard operating procedures	
Determine		subsidiaries	
Deviations		A synonym	
directives		Transnational corporations	

The traditional definition of auditing is a review and an evaluation of financial records by a second set of accountants. An internal audit is a control by a company's own accountants, checking for completeness, (1) exactness and reliability. Among other things, internal auditors are looking for (2) departures from (3) a firm's established methods for recording business transactions. In most countries, the law requires all firms to have their accounts audited by an outside company. An (4) independent audit is thus a review of financial statements and accounting records by an accountant not belonging to the firm. The auditors have to (5) judge whether the accounts give what in Britain is known as a "true and fair view" and in the US as a "fair presentation" of the company's 'corporation's' financial position. Auditors are appointed by a company's (6) most senior executives and advisors, whose choice has to be (7) approved by the (8) owners of the company's equity at the (9) company's yearly assembly. Auditors write an official audit report. They may also address a "management letter" to the directors, outlining (10) inadequacies and recommending improved operating procedures. This leads to the more recent use of the word "audit" as (11) an équivalent term for "control": (12) multinational companies, for example, might undertake inventory, marketing and technical audits. Auditing in this sense means (13) verifying that general management (14) instructions are being (15) executed in branches, (16) companies which they control, etc...

B. Add appropriate words to these phrases :

1. Auditors ....companies accounts
2. Accounts have to..a fair presentation
3. Auditors write

   a

   ....
4. It's the directors who ....the auditors
5. Auditors sometimes better accounting procedures
6. Using external auditors is ....a requirement

C. All the words below can be combined with account, accounts or accounting, in a two-word partnership: e.g. bank account, accounts payable or tax accounting. Add the word account, accounts or accounting to each of the words below:

1. ....holder
2. ....methods
3. ....day
4. ....equation
5. ....payable
6. ....principles
7. ....period
8. ....procedures
9. ....receivable
10. ....savings
11. Bank.....................................
12. Current...............................
13. Standards..........................
14. Book.....................................
15. Deposit...............................
16. Cost.....................................
17. Managerial........................
18. Numbered..........................
19. Profit and loss...................
20. tax

III Writing (not more than 20 lines)

Auditors are supposed to be independent. What can be the limits to their independence?

Discuss

IV Translation

Translate the last paragraph of the reading comprehension text