CPA British Council®

Session 2: Professional Level

Examination Paper – Descriptive / Case-Based

Time Allowed: 3 Hours Maximum Marks: 100

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- 1. All questions are compulsory.
- 2. Answer in English and begin each question on a new page.
- 3. Clearly number your answers as per the question numbers in the paper.
- 4. Apply relevant accounting, auditing, taxation, and ethical frameworks.
- 5. Support your answers with practical examples, professional reasoning, and calculations wherever applicable.

SECTION A – CASE STUDY QUESTIONS

(Total: 40 Marks)

Answer all questions. Each question carries 20 marks.

Question 1 – Audit and Assurance (20 Marks)

You are the audit senior assigned to lead the external audit of CleanCare Medical Supplies, a company that experienced rapid expansion in the last two years. The company introduced a new inventory management system mid-year and had significant fluctuations in supplier accounts. During the audit planning phase, management appeared defensive about disclosing system issues.

Required:

- a) Identify the key audit risks in the scenario.
- b) Explain the procedures you would perform to address the audit of the new inventory system.
- c) Discuss the ethical responsibilities of the auditor in the event of limited cooperation from management.

Question 2 – Corporate and Business Strategy (20 Marks)

BrightWave Ltd., a mid-sized tech company, is evaluating whether to enter the African market with its cloud-based payroll software. The Board has requested an assessment of strategic options, external risks, and a roadmap for expansion.

Required:

- a) Conduct a PESTEL analysis for BrightWave Ltd. in the context of African market entry.
- b) Identify two strategic options using Ansoff's Matrix.
- c) Recommend one strategy with justifications based on strategic alignment and risk.

SECTION B – DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY QUESTIONS

(Total: 60 Marks)
Answer all questions.

Question 3 – Financial Management (15 Marks)

Explain the concept of the Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC). How does WACC influence corporate investment decisions? Illustrate with a hypothetical example showing a company's decision-making process for a capital budgeting project.

Question 4 – Taxation (15 Marks)

Discuss the principle of residence-based taxation versus source-based taxation. Explain the implications for multinational companies operating in jurisdictions with double tax treaties, and outline common methods used to avoid double taxation.

Question 5 – Performance Management (15 Marks)

Critically evaluate the Balanced Scorecard as a strategic performance management tool. Discuss its four perspectives and how they contribute to organizational success. Provide a real-world example or a hypothetical illustration.

Question 6 – Governance, Risk & Compliance (10 Marks)

Define corporate governance.

Explain the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors in promoting ethical conduct, transparency, and risk oversight within an organization.

End of Paper