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F6 税务(英国版)

F6 TAXATION (UK)

FA 2011

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FOR EXAMS IN 2012



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F6 税务 (英国版) F6 TAXATION (UK) FA 2011

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

F6 税务 (英国版) 练习册 F6 Taxation (UK) Practice&Revision Kit: 英文 / BPP Learning Media

著. -- 武汉: 华中科技大学出版社, 2012.1

(ACCA考试用书)

ISBN 978-7-5609-7648-8

I. ①F... II. ①B... III. ①税收管理—会计师—资格考方式—习题集—英文 Ⅳ. ①F23

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2011)第270751号

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F6 税务 (英国版) 练习册

F6 Taxation (UK) Practice&Revision Kit

BPP Learning Media 著

策划编辑: 周小方

责任编辑: 周小方

责任监印: 周治超

出版发行: 华中科技大学出版社(中国·武汉)

武汉喻家山 邮编: 430074 电话: (027) 87557437

印 刷: 上海市印刷十厂有限公司

开 本: 880mm×1230mm 1/16

印 张: 19.5

字 数: 475千字

版 次: 2012年1月第1版第1次印刷

定 价: 130.00元

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Question index

The headings in this checklist/index indicate the main topics of questions, but questions often cover several different topics.

Questions set under the old syllabus exam are included in this Kit (labelled BTX) because their style and content are similar to those that appear in the new syllabus exam. The questions have been amended as appropriate to reflect the current syllabus exam format.

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Planning your question practice

Our guidance from page xxi shows you how to organise your question practice, either by attempting questions from each syllabus area or **by building your own exams** – tackling questions as a series of practice exams.



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Topic index

Listed below are the key Paper F6 syllabus topics and the numbers of the questions in this Kit covering those topics.

If you need to concentrate your practice and revision on certain topics or if you want to attempt all available questions that refer to a particular subject, you will find this index useful.

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ME1 is Mock Exam 1, ME2 is Mock Exam 2 and ME3 is Mock Exam 3

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 available marks often can make the difference between passing and failing
- We include marking guides to show you what the examiner rewards
- We include examiners' comments to show you where students struggled or performed well in the actual exam
- We refer to the FA 2011 (for exams in June and December 2012) for detailed coverage of the topics covered
 in questions



Attempting mock exams

There are three mock exams that provide practice at coping with the pressures of the exam day. We strongly recommend that you attempt them under exam conditions. **Mock exams 1** and **2** reflect the question styles and syllabus coverage of the exam and **Mock exam 3** is the December 2011 paper.

Revising F6

Topics to revise

Any part of the syllabus could be tested in the examination, therefore it is essential that you learn the **entire syllabus** to maximise your chances of passing. There are no short cuts – trying to spot topics is dangerous and will significantly reduce the likelihood of success.

Question practice

You should use the Passcards and any brief notes you have to revise the syllabus, but you mustn't spend all your revision time passively reading. **Question practice is vital**; doing as many questions as you can in full will help develop your ability to analyse scenarios and produce relevant discussion and recommendations. The question plan on page xxi tells you what questions cover so that you can choose questions covering a variety of syllabus areas.

Also ensure that you attempt all three mock exams under exam conditions.

Passing F6

General exam support from BPP Learning Media

BPP Learning Media is committed to giving you the best possible support in your quest for exam success. With this in mind, we have produced **guidance** on how to revise and techniques you can apply to **improve your chances of passing** the exam. This guidance can be found on the BPP Learning Media web site at the following link:

www.bpp.com/acca/examtips/revising-for-ACCA-exams.doc

A paper copy of this guidance is available by writing to learningmedia@bpp.com.

As well as written guidance, an excellent presentation entitled 'Exam technique – advice from the experts at BPP Learning Media' is available at the following link:

 $\label{lem:http://www.bppprofessionaldevelopment.com/elearning/Assets/audiovisual/ACCAExamSkills/NewSyllabus/player.html?cmp=get_ataste$

Topics to revise

That said, you must have sound knowledge in the following fundamental areas if you are to stand a chance of passing the exam. You should therefore revise the following areas particularly well.

- Income tax computation including the personal allowance and the tax bands and rates.
- The calculation of benefits from employment, such as company car and/or fuel, use of an employer's asset and low cost loans. Make sure you can spot tax free benefits too.
- Capital allowances proforma paying particular attention to the availability of annual investment allowance.
 Note particularly the difference in the calculation rules between individuals (sole traders and partners) and companies.
- Calculation of taxable total profits, in relation to companies. Be aware that you may need to calculate the
 various elements that make up the taxable total profits such as property business income, interest income,
 gains and so on.
- Computation of chargeable gains paying attention to whether the disposal is made by an individual or a company, particularly for aspects such as indexation allowance and annual exempt amount.
- Inheritance tax computations including lifetime transfers and the death estate.
- How to calculate VAT payable or repayable depending on the type of supply (ie standard rated, zero rated or exempt).
- The different classes of NIC payable by employees and their employers compared to those due from self employed individuals or partners.

Question practice

You should use the Passcards and any brief notes you have to revise the syllabus, but you mustn't spend all your revision time passively reading. **Question practice is vital**; doing as many questions as you can in full will help develop your ability to analyse scenarios and produce relevant discussion and recommendations. The question plan on page xxi tells you what questions cover so that you can choose questions covering a variety of syllabus areas.

Passing the F6 exam

Displaying the right qualities

The examiner expects students to display the following qualities.

Qualities required	
Knowledge development	Questions will test your knowledge of underlying principles and major technical areas of taxation, as they affect the activities of individuals and businesses, across the breadth of the F6 syllabus. You will also be expected to apply this knowledge to the facts of each particular question and also to identify the compliance issues for your client.
Computation skills	Although you will be expected to be able to calculate the tax liability, note that you will also be marked on the methods you use. So, if your numbers are not perfect you will not necessarily lose too many marks so long as your method is correct and you have stated any assumptions you have made.
Ability to explain	Whilst the main focus of the exam is on the computation of tax liabilities, you may also be required to explain rules and conditions, so take care to practise the written elements of the answers also.
Identification capability	You must know who you are calculating tax liabilities for – is the client a company or an individual? Be sure who you are advising as this will seriously impact your answers.

You will not always produce the exact same answer as we have in our answer section. This does not necessarily mean that you have failed the question, but if you do use the suggested proformas and methods you will maximise the number of marks you can achieve.

Avoiding weaknesses

We give details of the examiner's comments and criticisms throughout this Kit. These hardly varied over the last few years. His reports always emphasise the need for thorough preparation for the exam, but there are various things you can do on the day of the exam to enhance your chances. Although these all sound basic, the examiner has commented that many scripts don't:

- Make the most of the information given in the question
- Follow the question requirements
- Set out workings clearly

Using the reading time

You will have 15 minutes' reading time for Paper F6. Here are some helpful tips on how to best utilise this time.

- Speed read through the question paper, jotting down any ideas that come to you about any of the questions.
- Decide the order which you're likely to tackle questions (probably easiest questions first, most difficult questions last).
- Spend the remainder of reading time reading the question(s) you'll do first in detail jotting down proformas
 and plans (any plans or proformas written on the question paper should be reproduced in the answer
 booklet).
- When you can start writing, get straight on with the question(s) you've planned in detail.

If you have looked at all of the questions during the reading time, this should hopefully mean that you will find it easier to answer the more difficult questions when you come to them, as you will have been generating ideas and remembering facts while answering the easier questions.



Choosing which questions to answer first

There are five compulsory questions, with a larger number of marks awarded for the first two questions.

- Many students prefer to answer the questions with the largest number of allocated marks first. Others prefer
 to answer a question on their most comfortable topic.
- Whatever the order, make sure you leave yourself sufficient time to tackle all the questions. Don't get so
 bogged down in the calculations in the first question you do, especially if it's your favourite topic, that you
 have to rush the rest of the paper.
- Allocate your time carefully between different question parts. If a question is split into a number of requirements, use the number of marks available for each to allocate your time effectively.

Tackling questions

You'll improve your chances by following a step-by-step approach along the following lines.

Step 1 Read the requirement

Identify the knowledge areas being tested and see precisely what the examiner wants you to do. This will help you focus on what's important in the question.

Step 2 Check the mark allocation

This helps you allocate time.

Step 3 Read the question actively

You will already know which knowledge area(s) are being tested from having read the requirement so whilst you read through the question underline or highlight key words and figures as you read. This will mean you are thinking about the question rather than just looking at the words blankly, and will allow you to identify relevant information for use in your calculations.

Step 4 Plan your answer

You may only spend five minutes planning your answer but it will be five minutes well spent. Identify the calculations you will need to do and whether you have appropriate proformas to assist in these. If there is a written element to the question, determine whether you can you use bullet points or if you need a more formal format.

Step 5 Write your answer

Stick carefully to the time allocation for each question, and for each part of each question.



Gaining the easy marks

There are two main ways to obtain easy marks in the F6 exam.

Proformas

There will always be basic marks available for straightforward tasks such as putting easy figures into proformas, for example putting the cost figure for an addition into a capital allowances proforma. Do not miss out on these easy marks by not learning your proformas properly. Make it easy for yourself to pick up the easy marks.

Deadlines and dates

An important component of your knowledge of the different taxes is the administrative, or compliance, details such as filing deadlines and tax payment dates. This element of the requirement can often be answered even before you make any calculations, for example stating the submission deadline for an individual's self assessment tax return.

Exam information The exam paper

The syllabus is assessed by a three-hour paper-based examination.

The paper will be predominantly computational and will have five questions, all of which will be compulsory.

- Question one will focus on income tax and question two will focus on corporation tax. The two questions will be for a total of 55 marks, with one of the questions being for 30 marks and the other being for 25 marks.
- Question three will focus on chargeable gains (either personal or corporate) and will be for 15 marks.
- Questions four and five will be on any area of the syllabus, can cover more than one topic, and will be for 15 marks each.

There will always be at a minimum of 10 marks on value added tax. These marks will normally be included within question one or question two, although there might be a separate question on value added tax.

There will always be between 5 and 15 marks on inheritance tax. Inheritance tax can be included within questions three, four or five.

National insurance contributions will not be examined as a separate question, but may be examined in any question involving income tax or corporation tax.

Groups and overseas aspects of corporation tax may be examined in either question two, question four or question five.

A small element of chargeable gains may be included in questions other than question three.

Any of the five questions might include the consideration of issues relating to the minimisation or deferral of tax liabilities.

December 2011

		Question in this Kit
1	Income tax liabilities; NICs; employment income; pensions	ME 3 Qu 1
2	Taxable total profits; loss relief; value added tax liability	ME 3 Qu 2
3	Chargeable gains for individuals; entrepreneurs' relief; CGT liabilities	ME 3 Qu 3
4	Property income; furnished holiday letting; rent a room relief; losses	ME 3 Qu 4
5	Group relief; double taxation relief; inheritance tax on lifetime transfer	ME 3 Qu 5

June 2011

		Question in this Kit
1	Sole trader; adjustment of profit; income tax computation and administration; national insurance contributions; partnerships	14
2	Company; taxable total profits including trading income; capital allowances; property income; chargeable gain; payment of corporation tax by instalments	31
3	Chargeable gains for individuals; share with takeover.; entrepreneurs' relief; CGT liabilities	21
4	Value added tax; registration; invoices; EU services; penalty for understated tax; annual accounting scheme	51
5	Inheritance tax on lifetime transfers and death estate; payment of tax	29

