



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

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To the Management Authorities of Post-Primary Schools

Sample Papers for Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate Mathematics Examination 2013 – Clarification and Corrections

A chara,

I refer to the sample papers recently issued to schools for the Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate Mathematics examinations of 2013. Two issues have come to our attention.

Leaving Certificate Mathematics, Foundation Level, Paper 1

We have received some queries in relation to Foundation Level Sample Paper 1, Question 4, which deals with compound interest.

Candidates and teachers should note that the revised syllabus for Leaving Certificate Foundation level takes the revised syllabus for Junior Certificate Ordinary Level as assumed prior knowledge. Accordingly, calculations involving compound interest are examinable, as are all other outcomes in the relevant strands of the revised Junior Certificate Ordinary Level syllabus.

Following these queries and further discussions between SEC, NCCA and DES, it has been agreed that a restriction in the Junior Certificate Ordinary Level syllabus that limits compound interest calculations to a maximum of three years should also be taken to apply at Leaving Certificate Foundation Level. Accordingly, the following correction should be applied to the sample paper. This correction applies to Foundation Level Paper 1 for both the initial schools (Phase 3) and all other schools (Phase 2).

Correction:

Page 6, Question 4, part (b): In place of “an eight-year government bond”, read “a three-year government bond”. In place of “in eight years’ time”, read “in three years’ time”.

Candidates and teachers should note that there is no corresponding restriction on the similar calculations related to depreciation. Accordingly, it is anticipated that candidates would be familiar with using the relevant formulae in the *Formulae and Tables* booklet for such calculations, as this is the most efficient means of calculation. Irrespective of the number of years involved, candidates are free to choose whether to use the relevant formula or to perform a repeated annual calculation.

Junior Certificate Mathematics, Higher Level, Paper 2

It has come to our attention that there is an error in Question 4 of the sample paper for Junior Certificate, Higher Level, Paper 2. Accordingly, the following correction should be applied to this sample paper. This correction applies to Higher Level Paper 2 for both the initial schools (Phase 3) and all other schools (Phase 1).

Correction:

Page 6, Question 4, line 9: delete the word “only”.

Please bring this circular to the attention of all relevant teachers and candidates. If you have any questions regarding the content of this circular, please contact Tony Dolan at 090 644 42767.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Dolan
Assistant Principal Officer
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