



Exam and Study Tips :

A marker's perspective

YOUNG ACTUARIES PROGRAM

THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

CATHY MARQUIS



Overview



- ▶ Study Tips
- ▶ Exam preparation
- ▶ In the exam
- ▶ Observations as a marker



Study tips



- ▶ Plan
- ▶ Be disciplined in your approach eg set time aside
- ▶ Balance work/study/leisure - schedule in down time
- ▶ Find your best study time and use it wisely
- ▶ Study with others
- ▶ Leverage off the knowledge around you
- ▶ Attend tutorials
- ▶ Ask for help
- ▶ Read widely



Exam Preparation



In the lead up to the exam

- ▶ Practice – do past exams under exam conditions and ask someone to mark them for you
- ▶ Share with study partners
 - ▶ Questions/issues/problems
 - ▶ Practice exams –mark each other's responses
- ▶ Be greedy for practical knowledge
- ▶ Consider hot industry topics



In the exam



- ▶ Plan your response
- ▶ Allocate time according to marks available
- ▶ Consider response based on marks available
- ▶ Read the question being asked
- ▶ Answer the question being asked



Observations as a marker



Common mistakes students make

- ▶ Not answering the question being asked
- ▶ Response is not relevant or not in context of the question
- ▶ Different words to describe same issue given as a separate point
- ▶ Not enough explanation of relevance of point made eg explaining why/justification
- ▶ Avoid making potentially dangerous statements if your not sure
- ▶ Justify your approach and assumptions

Observations as a marker

- ▶ Terminology: Make sure you explain yourself not just assume the marker will understand what you mean!
 - ▶ For example - avoid using terms/key words which are specific for your company -> use terms/key words from the course or explain the terms you reference
- ▶ Not enough points made relative to marks allocated
 - ▶ Eg If significant number of marks are allocated to a part of the question, think broadly and consider what can be covered rather than dwelling on a few points
- ▶ Get to the point!