



## EXAMINER'S REPORT JULY 2020

### PORT AGENCY

#### 1 Laytime.

This was very popular question with students, and most students were able to construct a proper laytime statement which enabled the examiner to understand the structure of the students answers and be able to apportion marks, even where the end calculation was incorrect.

It was slightly concerning that only four student out of the twenty three who attempted this question managed to gain full marks

However it was encouraging that the average mark was 12.2 which indicates that the majority of students who attempted the question (19 out of 23) gained a pass mark.

2. This was an abbreviation type question which related to a tanker fixture, it was a new type of question, although the core information could readily be accessed in the syllabus.

The question was not at all popular with students, and only seven out of the thirty five students who sat the exam attempted the question.

Pleasingly all students gained a pass mark for their attempts.

3. The question on vessel and cargo disbursements was very well handled, and a popular choice for students.

Out of the twenty eight students who attempted this question, twenty achieved a pass mark. Students were comfortable with the ship related accounts for owner, time charterer and crewing manager. The mistakes which were made tended to focus on the cargo handling accounts.

4. The question on Protection and Indemnity clubs was generally well handled, students previously have had issues with an awareness of the requirements of the Ships agent in particular.

Students previously had a greater awareness of the shipowners requirements.

However in the exam students were able to display a good knowledge between the needs of the ships agent and the shipowner.

5. The operational question was impressively handled by the students who gave an impressive overview on the importance of managing the financial position. Some students caused concern by offering credit to the shipowner which was a concern given the circumstances. A number of students overlooked the issue with the vessels crew, which was disappointing.

6. The marketing question on Ro Pax ferries was challenging for the student. The majority of students were able to offer core agency services, but struggled to give in depth added value services that were aligned to the passenger and freight market. This may be reflective of the infrequent use of port agents in this specific market sector.

7. The question on map work and trade routes was modestly handled by the students. Most students chose the option of Iron ore and were able to offer correct loading areas such Brazil and South Africa. More disappointingly was inconsistent use of map work when locating many of the discharge ports.

8. The question on trading certificates was very popular with the students. Twenty eight students selected this question and twenty students achieved a pass mark, with one student achieving full marks. Students demonstrated a wide range of knowledge on the various trading certificates that they would expect to find on board a vessel.