

TIME: 3 HOURS

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The paper contains SIX (6) questions.
- Answer any four (4) questions.
- All questions carry equal marks [25 marks].
- Start the answer to each question on a fresh page of the answer sheet.
- Indicate on your answer booklet whether you are in the conventional or parallel programme


## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Questions may be written in any order, but must be legibly numbered.

The businesses in this question paper are intended to be fictitious.

## QUESTION ONE

a) (i) What are the main functions of money in an economy?
[5 marks]
(ii) Describe five characteristics of money which enable it to efficiently perform its Functions.
[5 marks]
(b) From (ii) discuss under appropriate headings showing the instances where the local currency falls short.
[15 marks]

## QUESTION TWO

a) Describe the functions performed by the Central Bank.
[5 marks]
b) Define the discount window and discount rate.
[5 marks]
c) What actions can be taken by the Central Bank to promote economic expansion? Describe how each affects credit availability, interest rates, money supply and security prices.
[15 marks]

## QUESTION THREE

(a) What is meant by the term depository institution?
[3 marks]
(b) What are the major sources of funds for commercial banks in Zimbabwe?
[5 marks]
(c) How has the performance of the commercial banking industry changed in the last decade?
[17 marks]

## QUESTION FOUR

(a) What is the duration of a two-year zero coupon bond that pays an annual coupon of 10 percent and has a current yield to maturity of 12 percent? Use $\$ 1000$, as the face value.
[7 marks]
(b) What is the duration of a two-year bond with 10 percent coupon paid semiannually and 8 percent yield? Use $\$ 1000$, as the face value. [15 marks]
(c) Given these answers, how does duration differ from maturity?

## QUESTION FIVE

(a) What are the 10 characteristics common to financial securities?
(b) What services do financial intermediaries provide to the financial system?
(c) Why are financial intermediaries regulated?
[5 marks]

## QUESTION SIX

Write brief notes on the following;
(i)
(a) Best Efforts [3 marks]
(b) Floor brokers
[3 marks]
(c) Odd-lot dealers
[3 marks]
(d) Primary markets
[5 marks]
(e) Over-the-counter markets
(ii) How does the liquidity premium theory of term structure of interest rates differ from the unbiased expectations theory?
[6 marks]

