

# ACCA SBL Syllabus Changes

## September 23 - June 2024

### New exam structure

From September 2023, **pre-seen information** will be provided for each SBL exam, and the time provided for the exam itself is changing from 4 hours to **3 hour 15 minutes**.

The **preseen information** will be sent out two weeks before the exam date. It will contain around 10 pages of information about the organisation - typically the industry, the organisation's history and background, the board structure, information about competitors and some KPIs. The ACCA has indicated that the information in the pre-seen will not be examined directly, but will provide the context and background for the exam itself. Students will need to be familiar with this information before they arrive at the exam hall, although the preseen will be available in the exam software. (They are not allowed to take their annotated pre seen information with them into the exam).

The exam itself will contain some additional exhibits - a smaller number than the previous SBL exams - typically four or five exhibits. The questions in the exam will be based on these exhibits.

There will be three tasks in the exam. The tasks may include two or three sub tasks. In the specimen exams, there are only one or two sub tasks in each task, meaning that it is unlikely that students will be required to do more than six requirements.

Each professional skill will appear once in each exam for four marks.

### Topics new to the paper

There have been no new topics added to the SBL syllabus. For a full review of the syllabus please visit the link below:

<https://www.accaglobal.com/uk/en/student/exam-support-resources/professional-exams-study-resources/strategic-business-leader/syllabus-study-guide.html>

### Topics leaving the syllabus

There are some changes to the wording of a small number of learning outcomes and some consolidation of outcomes to remove repetition. These changes do not imply any change to the substance of the syllabus itself.

### Significant changes to the BPP Materials

There have been no significant changes to the workbook. However, where practice questions include professional skills marks, the number of marks has been changed to 4 for each skill, in line with the new exam structure.

In the Practice and Revision Kit, wherever professional skills marks are awarded for a particular skill, the number of marks is 4, with the exception of the mini mocks, where the number of marks remains 2 per skill.

The mock exams section of the Practice and Revision Kit has been updated so that all mocks are consistent with the new exam format. Mock Exams 1 and 5 are based on the previous versions of Mock Exams 1 and 5. Mock Exam 2 is the ACCA's new Specimen Exam 2. Mock Exam 3 is the previous specimen exam 2 (Railtrack) which has been amended to the new exam format. Mock Exam 4 is based on the Sept/Dec 2022 ACCA exam but has been amended to the new exam format.

### External resources

The ACCA website includes past papers for SBL which you may like to take a look at. Be aware that these will be in the old format.

ACCA are in the process of moving the CBE specimen exams from their website to your MyACCA account. Please ensure you visit your ACCA account in order to access these additional resources. These exams are available free of charge you just need to assign them to your account for the exams that you are sitting.

### Exam format changes

All ACCA exams are now Computer-Based-Exam (CBE) exams for the Strategic Professional level. For more details go to:

<https://www.accaglobal.com/vn/en/student/exam-entry-and-administration/computer-based-exams/strategic-professional-cbes.html>