

RE Tips: Dissecting the different types of questions

Complexity levels

Each exam will contain questions at 4 different levels of complexity:

1. Knowledge: Testing your recall of factual knowledge
2. Comprehension: Testing your understanding and interpretation of factual knowledge and concepts
3. Application: Testing your ability to apply factual knowledge to real life situations and
4. Analysis: Testing your ability to analyse factual knowledge presented as case studies and to present the best action to take.

It stands to reason that the first two types of questions will be normally shorter, and easier to answer if you are thoroughly prepared. The third and fourth types of questions will normally take longer to read and understand, and the possible answers from which you have to select the correct option may also be longer.

Question format

Each question has four options, and you must select the correct option. It is very important that you understand the following:

Questions can be posed in the following styles:

- A direct closed ended question: the question must be answered by choosing the correct option
- An incomplete sentence: the sentence must be completed correctly by choosing the correct option
- The negative question: the negative option needs to be chosen. Applicant must be aware that these type of questions will be asked and therefore must read questions carefully
- The most/best/least format: applicant must choose most applicable option to the question
- Roman numeral format: A closed ended question where applicants must choose more than one correct option from a list of options
- Sequencing: the options should be listed in the correct sequence

It is of the utmost importance that you read each question very carefully to make sure you understand what is being asked. Many candidates have failed because they did not read the questions thoroughly before answering.

The Moonstone website, www.moonstone.co.za contains a wealth of regulatory examination information. Please feel free to browse there to your heart's content.

Our registration call centre is available weekdays during business hours (08h00 – 16h00). Contact 021 883 8000 / 888 9796 or e-mail faisexam@moonstoneinfo.co.za