

**NRC COMMENTS TO THE PROPOSED
WRITTEN EXAMINATION, ES-401-9
FOR THE
PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
INITIAL EXAMINATION - JULY 2007**

Prairie Island July/August 2007 Exam

Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation	
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only			
1	H	2				X									U	<p>New. 1) Distractor A is not plausible, since by simple arithmetic, 147-95 = 52 deg. Thus, the second part of distractor A is obviously incorrect. 2) Distractor D is not plausible, since by simple arithmetic, the second part of the distractor is obviously incorrect.</p> <p>NOTE: Question requires a reference.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: Using loop specific temperature differences is a previous plant practice and provides a plausible misconception for these distractors. Distractor "a" has a 47 degree F difference, which is below the 50 degree F limit if the student incorrectly believes it is loop-specific. Distractor "d" is for symmetry and if student misapplies "limiting."</p>

Instructions

[Refer to Section D of ES-401 and Appendix B for additional information regarding each of the following concepts.]

1. Enter the level of knowledge (LOK) of each question as either (F)undamental or (H)igher cognitive level.
2. Enter the level of difficulty (LOD) of each question using a 1 – 5 (easy – difficult) rating scale (questions in the 2 – 4 range are acceptable).
3. Check the appropriate box if a psychometric flaw is identified:
 - The stem lacks sufficient focus to elicit the correct answer (e.g., unclear intent, more information is needed, or too much needless information).
 - The stem or distractors contain cues (i.e., clues, specific determiners, phrasing, length, etc).
 - The answer choices are a collection of unrelated true/false statements.
 - The distractors are not credible; single implausible distractors should be repaired, more than one is unacceptable.
 - One or more distractors is (are) partially correct (e.g., if the applicant can make unstated assumptions that are not contradicted by stem).
4. Check the appropriate box if a job content error is identified:
 - The question is not linked to the job requirements (i.e., the question has a valid K/A but, as written, is not operational in content).
 - The question requires the recall of knowledge that is too specific for the closed reference test mode (i.e., it is not required to be known from memory).
 - The question contains data with an unrealistic level of accuracy or inconsistent units (e.g., panel meter in percent with question in gallons).
 - The question requires reverse logic or application compared to the job requirements.
5. Check questions that are sampled for conformance with the approved K/A and those that are *designated SRO-only* (K/A and license level mismatches are unacceptable).
6. Based on the reviewer's judgment, is the question as written (U)nsatisfactory (requiring repair or replacement), in need of (E)ditorial enhancement, or (S)atisfactory?
7. At a minimum, explain any "U" ratings (e.g., how the Appendix B psychometric attributes are not being met).

A "+" in the "Q#" column indicates that question was reviewed as part of the representative sample of 30 questions.
 All questions reviewed for KA conformance and reference verification.

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Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
2	H	3												S	Bank.
3	H	3												E S	Bank. To make distractor C more plausible, change to "Pressurizer PORVs will OPEN." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Leave this question as written. Distractor C is plausible as written with the misconception that OPPS (Pressurizer Overpressure Protection System) is only for one PORV.
4	H	2												E	Bank For distractor b and c, the words "the same" do not reflect proper english in the sentence. Suggest the following changes: 1) In the question stem, delete the word "than." 2) In distractors a and d, change the second part of the distractor to "higher than." 3) In distractors b and c, change the second part of the distractor to "the same as." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Changed question stem, answer and distractors to be grammatically correct.
5	H	3												S	New.
6+	H	3												E	Bank. To make the first part of distractors A and B more correct, add "#1" in front of the words "RCP Seal leakoff." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Distractors changed.
7	F	3												S	Modified.
8	H	3												E	Bank. In the question stem, change the phrase "what actions should be taken" to "what action is required to be taken." Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem changed.

Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
9+	H	3												?	Bank. Is it realistic that the PZR Cold Calibration level channel would read 80% with the PZR solid at 340 F and 375 psig? Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Changed cold cal level to 83% in stem. Added note to explanation that 83% cold cal level is the top of the reference leg and level will stabilize there.
10	H	3							X					U S	Bank. 1) Would an applicant be expected to know that a 50 psig deviation between the PZR Master Controller and actual PZR pressure corresponds to a PZR Master Controller output of 75%? Appears to be minutia. Suggest changing the question stem to say that the PZR Master Pressure Controller fails to 100%, and ask what happens. This would make distractor D correct. Also would make A. correct (subset of D.), need to make A. incorrect. 2) In the third bullet in the question, add the word "then" before the word "fails." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Students are required to know band and effects at different master controller outputs. Provided LO and LP. Added "then" to third bullet.
11	H	3												E	<u>Modified.</u> New. Question is significantly different from the Bank question, and should be called a New question instead of a Modified question. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Question changed to New.
12	F	2												U E	New. 1) Per ARP 47514-0304 which was provided, distractors A and C should say "P-13" instead of "P-7." Otherwise, distractor C is incorrect, and there is no correct answer. 2) In distractors B and D, add the word "ONLY" at the end of the distractors. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> P-13 at Prairie Island is only an input into P-7 and does not perform any other function. P-7 is actually P-7 AND P-13 but only P-7 is indicated on the control board. Indicator 44176, column 13 is labeled "Turb Pwr P-7." Added ONLY at the end of b and d distractors.
13+	H	3												E	Bank. 1) In the fourth bullet in the question stem, fully capitalize the word "NO" for emphasis. 2) In the question stem, add the following at the end of the first bullet: "End-Of-Life." Otherwise, if at BOL, then distractor B could be considered correct, if the Charging pumps were available with little decay heat. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Changes incorporated.

Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
14	H	3												E	Bank. In the question stem, add the following words to the end of question: "and what is the reason for the effect (if any)?" <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changes incorporated.
15	F	3												2 S	New. 1) Need to go over electrical prints with facility to verify that distractor A is correct. 2) In distractors C and D, add the word "ONLY" at the end of the distractors. Also, what is difference between C. and D.? <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changes incorporated. Reviewed electrical prints with facility to verify A is correct. D. Indicates fan is running regardless of speed.
16+	F	3												2 E	New. 1) The explanation given on the Question Worksheet for why distractor C is correct does not reflect what distractor C says. That is, the explanation mentions a 5 second time delay for the pump to start, whereas distractor C states that the discharge valve and pump actuate at the same time. 2) Add the following words to the end of the question in the question stem " associated with the 21 Containment Spray Pump," since the distractors do not describe the full automatic of the CS system (i.e., that associated with the 22 CS Pump). <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Corrected explanation for C and added requested words to stem.
17	H	2				X								U	Bank. Distractors B and C are not plausible that RCS temperature increases when a condenser steam dump valve fails open. Also B. not plausible for reactor power increase with a RCS temperature increase. Also, D. not plausible that reactor power decreases with a RCS temperature decrease. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Question replaced and validated.
18	H	2												S	Bank.
19+	F	3												S	New.

Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
20	F	3												?	New. 1) What is the tolerance associated with the Degraded Voltage setpoint of 3973 Volts? The Alarm Response Procedure for Degraded Voltage states that the approximate setpoint is 3973 volts. Distractor D could be considered correct if 3980 volts and 4020 volts are within the tolerance of the 3973 volt setpoint. 2) Add the following words at the end of the question in the question stem: "and what actions will occur/are required (if any)." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Added TS 3.3.4-5 as reference (degraded voltage allowed value is 3944-4002V) to ensure D is incorrect. Added "and what actions will occur / are required (if any)," to stem.
21	H	3												?	New. 1) Why would affected DC bus not become deenergized? 2) Editorial: In the question stem, fully capitalize the word "NEXT." 3) In distractor C, add the word "ONLY" at the end. Otherwise, if distractor D. were correct, then distractor C would have also been correct. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> This is an ungrounded system, therefore, a ground will cause an undervoltage on the affected side. Question changes incorporated.
22	F H	3												E	Bank. Change the Level of Knowledge for the question from Fundamental to Higher Cognitive Level. Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> LOK changed to High.
23+	F	3												E	New. Add at the end of distractor D "for the Jacket water heat exchanger." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> D changed.
24	F	2												S	Bank.
25	F	2												E	Bank. In distractors C and D, change "fail open" to "go full open." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> C and D changed.
26+	F	3												E	Bank. Instead of this question, use the original Bank question provided, since the original question is at a Higher Cognitive Level instead of Fundamental. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Exam already meets LOK for H, leave question as L. The Bank question introduces additional knowledge beyond that required by K/A.

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			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
27	F	3												2 E	New. 1) The question stem asks for the "closest location." But closest to what? 2) In the question stem, fully capitalize the word "CLOSEST." <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Clarified location in stem by stating that the U 2 RO has reported to the Auxiliary Feedwater Pump Room.
28	H	3												U	New. 1) Could reach containment temperature limit before reach containment pressure limit. Thus, distractor C may not be the correct answer. 2) C is the only one with a shutdown statement. Also, one does not need to shutdown if containment pressure nears the limit, only if containment pressure exceeds the limit. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Question replaced and validated.
29+	F	3					X							U S	New. Distractor D could also be considered correct, since Bus 13 feeds Bus 130. Suggest changing the question stem to ask "Which of the following is the Bus that has the breaker for the 11 Rod Drive MG Set?" <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Facility disagreed. D is not correct because Bus 13 is not 4160V bus.
30	H	3				X								E	Bank. 1) To make distractor C more plausible, change distractor C such that letdown isolates. 2) Change distractor D such that letdown does NOT isolate. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changes incorporated.
31	H	3												S	Bank.
32	H	3												S	Bank.
33+	F	3												E	New. In all four distractors, replace the phrase "calculated input" to "calculation." <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changes incorporated.
34	F	2												E	New. 1) In the question stem, change the word "should" to "is expected to." 2) In the third bullet in the question stem, delete the words "a 5000 gallon." <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Incorporated changes to question stem; however, did not delete "a 5000 gallon" because this is relevant information per note in procedure step 5.15.1.

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			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
35	F	3												E	New. To clarify distractor A, change to "ONLY indicated at the breaker for the West Fuel Hoist." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> A changed.
36+	F	3												S	New.
37	H	2												S	Bank.
38	H	3												E	New. 1) In the question stem, the terms "R-28" and "1R-28" are both used. These should be consistent. 2) To make distractor D more plausible, change distractor D to 0.25 mrem/hour. Also, D. is indicated as correct in explanations. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem and D changed.
39+	F	2												S	New.
40	H	2												S	New.
41	H	3												S	Bank.
42	F H	2												E	New. 1) Change the Level of Knowledge for the question from Fundamental to Higher Cognitive Level. 2) In the question stem, in the second bulleted item, add the word "just" before the word "placed." 3) In all the distractors, add the word "increase" after "radiation levels." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem and distractors changed.
43+	H	3												S	New.
44	H	3												S	Bank.
45	H	3					X							U E	New. 1) Distractor B could also be considered correct, since it would supply 12 gpm boration flow. 2) In the fifth bullet of the question stem, change the word "transfers" to "transferred." 3) In the seventh bullet of the question stem, add the word "then" before the word "actuates." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> B is incorrect because 12 gpm is max boration rate with pump at min speed, and cannot borate as fast as 13 Charging Pump which can go to 20 gpm charging (15 gpm boration). Changed bullet wording.

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46+	H	3												E	Bank. In the question stem, change the words "Is alarming" to "then alarms." <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Stem changed.
47	F	3												S	New.
48	F	3					X							U	Bank. Distractor A could also be considered correct, since if SG pressures are decreasing, then RCS cold leg temperatures would be decreasing. Suggest changing distractor A such that RCS cold leg temperatures are Stable. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : A changed.
49+	H	3												E	New. Change the second line of distractor B to "If power increased to the P-10 setpoint, then perform the immediate actions of 1E-0, Reactor Trip or Safety Injection." <u>RESOLUTION</u> : B changed.
50	F	3												S	New.
51	H	3												2 S	New. Could distractor A be considered correct? For the conditions in the question stem (i.e., large break in the Train A cooling header), would the 12 and 22 Cooling Water Pumps be expected to start on low header pressure? <u>NOTE</u> : Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Distractor A incorret, 12/22 CWP's autostart is at 75 psig, note added to "Explanation."
52	F	3												S	New.
53+	H	2												E	Bank. In distractor C, add the word "then" before the word "check." <u>NOTE</u> : Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changed C wording.
54	F	3												S	New.

Q#	1. LOK (F/H)	2. LOD (1-5)	3. Psychometric Flaws					4. Job Content Flaws				5. Other		6. U/E/S	7. Explanation
			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
55	H	3					X							U	New. Distractor B could also be considered correct, since the Mitigation Strategy for RHR HX Blockage in F3-17.2, Table 2 has only bullets, which does not imply an order to perform these actions. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Revised B to read "Stop 11 <u>AND</u> 12 RHR pumps and restart BOTH 6 minutes later."
56+	H	3												S	New. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
57	H	2	X											U	New. 1) Depending on the type of instrument failure, there could be no correct answer. For example, if a Tave channel fails upscale a couple degrees, then Control Bank D may not step all the way to 220 steps. The type of instrument failure should be specified in the question stem. 2) Distractor B is not plausible that the Rod Height would be 220 steps, but the step counter would continue to increase above 228 steps. Suggest changing the Rod Height to 232 steps (i.e., above normal limit of 228 steps). <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Changed stem to indicate a Turbine Impulse Pressure transmitter failing high, placed CB B at 215 steps, asked for the highest rod height and step counter indication. Changed B rod height to 220 and step counter indication to 228
58	H	3												S	Bank. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
59+	F	3												S	Bank. Need to see the Alarm Response Procedure for "SOURCE RANGE BLOCKED HI VOLTAGE OFF." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Reference previously provided. Supported correct answer as written.
60	F	3												S	New.
61	F	2												S	New.
62	H	2												S	Bank. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.

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63+	H	2				X								U	Bank. Distractors A and B are not plausible that PZR pressure will increase when decreasing PZR level. Change first part of A and B to "decrease slower." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Incorporated changes to A and B.
64	F					X								U	New. 1) Distractors A and B are not plausible that containment pressure will remain below 23 psig if one CS pump is running, when the CS pumps autostart at 23 psig. (and thus would not be running if containment pressure remained below 23 psig). 2) Typo: In distractor B, change "Fain" to "Fan." 3) Editorial: In all 4 distractors, delete the word "IF," since this word is already in the question stem. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Corrected typo and editorial remarks. Changed A to "four Containment Fan Coil Units running", and B to "two Containment Fan Coil Units running."
65	F	2												S	Bank.
66+	F	2												E	New. 1) Suggest changing this question to a 1 out 2 taken twice type question as follows: Change the question to: "A peer check is _____, and Shift Supervisor concurrence for the activity is _____." A. NOT required. _____ required. B. required. _____ required. (Correct Answer) C. NOT required. _____ NOT required. D. required. _____ NOT required. 2) Need to see reference that Shift Supervisor concurrence is required for the activity. 3) If do not change question as above, then add to the end of distractor B the following: "because this activity is a reactivity manipulation." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Reformatted question as suggested.
67	F	3												E S	New. Change distractor C to "One control rod in Control Bank D is declared INOPERABLE." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> If there is nothing incorrect about the question as written, then leave as is.
68	H	3												E	Bank. New. Change this from a Bank to a New question. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Changed to New.

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			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
69+	H	3												S	Bank.
70	H	3												S	New. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
71	H	3												E	Bank. Change the question to "What is the expected total person-mrem dose when the PREFERRED option based on ALARA policy is chosen?" <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem changed.
72	H	3												E	New. Typo: In question stem, correct the spelling of "Guidelines." <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem spelling corrected.
73+	F	3												E	Bank. In the third bullet of the question stem, add the word "vent" before the word "valve." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Third bullet wording in stem changed.
74	F	2												S	New.
75	F	3												S	New.
76+	H	2											X	E	New. To make distractors A and B more plausible, in the question stem, change D5 room temperature to 92° F. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem changed.
77	H	2											X	E	New. In the question stem, second bullet, add the word "fully" before the word "OPENS." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Added wording to second bullet in stem.
78	F	3											X	E	New. Editorial: In distractor D, add a comma before the word "then." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Comma added to D.
79+	H	3											X	S	New. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
80	H	3											X	E	Modified. In the question stem, add the word "then" before the words "increases rapidly." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem wording changed.

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81	H	3											X	E	New. Editorial: In distractor C, add a comma before the word "THEN." <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Comma added to C.
82	H	3				X							X	E S	New. Change distractor D to reflect both trains of Aux Building Special Ventilation System (ABSVS) inoperable. LCO 3.7.12, Condition B would then apply. This would require being in Mode 5 in 60 hours (i.e., 24 + 36 hours), unless at least one train of ABSVS is restored to service. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Question correct as written.
83+	H	3											X	E	Bank. In distractor D, add the word "Inadvertent" before RCS boration. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Word added to D.
84	H	3											X	? E	New. Need to go over question with facility. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Added bullet to stem that power was 78% and stable.
85	F	3											X	S	New.
86+	H	3											X	S	Bank.
87	H					X							X	E S	New. 1) In the sixth bullet in the question stem, add the word "then" before the word "fails." 2) Distractor C is not plausible that the Tech Specs would say to operate the PZR heaters at the Hot Shutdown Panel. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Added word to stem bullet. C is plausible. Although not a TS Action, operating PZR heaters from the HSD Panel is an option that has been done at PI in the past which makes it a good distractor.
88	H	3											X	S	New. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
89+	H	3											X	E	New. In the question stem, add the word "then" before the phrase "fails OPEN and CANNOT be isolated." <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Stem word added.
90	H	3											X	S	New.

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91	H	2											X	S	Bank. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference.
92	H	2											X	E S	New. Presently, only page 12 of procedure C1B, Appendix - Reactor Startup, is provided to the applicant. Instead of providing only the proper page of the Attachment, provide all 13 pages of the Attachment, as long as other Written Questions are not affected. <u>NOTE:</u> Question requires a reference. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Reference provided is only to show actions in progress. Answer is TS related and the additional pages of the procedure is not relevant. The additional pages run the risk of discrediting other question distractors or inadvertently giving away a correct answer.
93+	F	3											X	E	Bank. Delete the word "should" from the question, and put in the message that an attempt be made to move the conveyor car to the SFP side. Suggest changing the question to: "The Shift Supervisor is expected to direct that an attempt be made to pull the conveyor car to the ...". <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Suggested revisions incorporated.
94	F	3											X	S	New.
95	F	2											X	U E	New. 1) How can applicants answer this question without having steps 5.1.16.A and 5.1.16.B available to look at? However, one can not provide steps 5.1.16.A and 5.1.16.B to the applicants, since these steps would give away the answer to Question 1. Suggest using a different set of steps and providing these to the applicants. 2) In the question stem, put the word "may" at the end, and then delete the word "may" in all 4 distractors. <u>RESOLUTION:</u> Applicants will have reference for this question from RO Question 1 (1C1.2, p 23, Step 5.1.16.A and .B).
96+	F	3											X	S	New.
97	F	3											X	S	New.

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			Stem Focus	Cues	T/F	Cred. Dist.	Partial	Job- Link	Minutia	#/ units	Back- ward	Q= K/A	SRO Only		
98	H	3											X	E	Bank. In the fourth bullet of the question stem, change from "1.3 psig" to "1.5 psig", to ensure that the procedural requirement to place the Post-LOCA Ventilation System in service is met (i.e., that containment pressure exceeds approximately 1.3 psig). <u>RESOLUTION</u> : Changes incorporated into stem.
99+	F	3											X	S	Bank.
100	H	3											X	S	New. <u>NOTE</u> : Question requires a reference.