C CHAPTER ONE

"DON'T GIVE UP, THEY ARE DESIGNED TO BE CHALLENGING"

Skillset of a Prize Winner



I think the greatest skill that's required is commitment. Balancing your time between work, study and having a social life can be really challenging but taking the little and often approach really worked for me!

A good revision technique and time management are also key to nailing these exams and in my case having an organised open book to glance at in the exam saved so much time. You don't need to memorise the entire study text or even regurgitate the text. The skill is being able to identify and understand the key points and apply these to the scenario. Practice makes perfect.

Career Advice



Embarking on the ACA qualification opens a variety of doors. I think there's a common misconception that it's all about numbers and if you didn't excel at maths then this isn't the right career for you, but this couldn't be further from the truth!

Achieving the qualification is completely doable for everyone who applies themselves. In the end, your attitude shapes your opportunities.

Advice to future students



Don't give up! These exams are designed to be challenging which is what makes them so prestigious and worth the hard work after three years.

Utilise all your available resources, whether that's the Kaplan notes, question bank or even your tutor- they are the best! Actively engage with the material, seek clarification when needed, and don't hesitate to ask for help. Stay focused, remain motivated, and believe in your ability to succeed.

Ultimately, you get out of these exams what you put in.



BECOMING A PRIZEWINNER

Caitlin Atherton - ICAEW Prize Winner - Deloitte Jersey

Caitlin Atherton scored 100% in her Business Planning Tax exam, gaining the 'Little Prize' and undoubtedly, the highest score in the exam.

We asked Caitlin a few questions to help future students achieve the passes that we are all aiming for. Caitlin has been one of our star students since starting Chapter One and is certainly on the road to success.

Describe accounting in Emojis



Favourite moment from Chapter One so far

I've really enjoyed meeting new people from different firms who are embarking on the same qualification. We've built a really great bond in my college class from day one and everyone is so supportive each other. Doing it all together both encourages and motivates us to keep going.

Most brutal advice received

At the end of the day it is your responsibility to take ownership of your own studies and work life balance because ultimately you are the one sitting the exam and no one can learn the content for you.

"Well, what can I say about Caitlin? She has been an exceptional student since she started with us. She works so hard and asks lots of questions to make sure she fully understands. (Some of them I have a hard time answering!).

Even getting above 90% in the mock exams, Caitlin never took her foot off the gas. Her worry of failing never subsided! Her peers, our marker and I (her tutor) never doubted her. In fact, I think she could have taught some of the revision days in my place!

Congrats, Caitlin, SO well deserved" Louise Cookson - BPT Tutor