PREPARATION FOR THE EXAMINATION
SAVC FULL REGISTRATION EXAMINATION
ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS - 2016

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Introduction

The South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) registration examination for foreign Animal Health diplomats/graduates, as well as for South African Animal Health diplomats/graduates who wish to obtain registration with the SAVC is offered annually. Preparation for this examination should be extensive, thorough, detailed and well in advance, preferably twelve (12) months prior to the examination to enable the candidate to pass. This document may serve as a guide to potential candidates on how to prepare them for the examination.

Structure of the examination

The examination consists of a Computer Based Examination (CBE) and practical/oral component and the candidate needs to pass the CBE theoretical part before permission will be granted to enter the practical/oral part thereof.

The CBE (theoretical) part will be a Computer Based Examination (CBE) with multiple choice questions, while the practical/oral examination is a structured oral and practical in handling and restraining of animals, mainly cattle, examination of lymph nodes and identification of other body parts, the correct way to perform vaccinations, collect faecal samples, collect blood samples, perform the TB test, do different smears and various other related aspects.

Candidates also need to recognise and explain the use of various instruments that form part of the daily routine work of an AHT. Candidates also need to recognise and explain the use of certain over the counter medicines and stock remedies used for treatment of animals as well calculations for these medicines dosages.

To do well in the CBE, the following information may help:

- Do not look at the answers before you have read the question carefully;
- Formulate your own answer to the question before looking at the answers supplied. This will prevent the answers from tricking you or throwing you off guard;
- Eliminate all answers that according to your knowledge are incorrect;
- Read all the options before you answer;
- There is no guessing penalty in the examination, however, consider all options prior to responding;
- Do not alter your answer unless you have misread the question.

Thorough theoretical preparation is very important to gain entry into the practical/oral examination. However, practical experience is of the utmost importance for AHTs as this forms part of their daily routine and therefore candidates need to ensure that they obtain enough experience beforehand. Candidates need to work with an experienced AHT and/or veterinarian for at least 3 – 6 months beforehand to ensure competence.

Study material

- Study material is available at UNISA and/or North West University and/or Tsolo Agriculture and Research Development Institute (TARDI).
- Related acts and legislation can be accessed at www.savc.org.za

[Doc H – AHT: Feb 2011; 10 Mar 2011; 30 Jul 2013; Feb 2015; Feb 2016]