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ENGLISH FOR THE FINANCIAL SECTOR

Courses for undergraduate students in Finance and Accounting

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INTRODUCTION

English for the financial sector is reading, speaking, and writing courses for undergraduate students in finance and accounting who need to understand and express the key concepts of finance and accounting and even other related areas of business and economics.

These courses aim to:

- * present you with the language and concepts found in books, newspapers, magazine articles, and websites on finance and accounting.
- * develop your comprehension of finance and accounting texts.
- * provide you with opportunities to express finance and accounting concepts by reformulating them in your own words while summarizing and discussing ideas.

UNIT 10 The balance sheet 3: liabilities

A- Liabilities

Liabilities are amounts of money that a company owes, and are generally divided into two types — long-term and current. Long-term liabilities or non-current liabilities include bonds.

Current liabilities are expected to be paid within a year of the date of the balance sheet.

They include:

1- creditors — largely suppliers of goods or services to the business who are not paid at the time of purchase

2 - planned dividends

3 - deferred taxes — money that will have to be paid as tax in the future, although the payment does not have to be made now.

Current liabilities

Short-term debt	1,655
Accounts payable	5,049
Accrued expenses	8,593
Total current liabilities	15,197

Non-current liabilities

Deferred income taxes	950
Long-term debt	3,402

Other non-current Liabilities.	4,201
Total non-current liabilities	5,553
Total liabilities	20,750
Shareholders' equity	
Common stock	10,309
Retained earnings	3,900
Total	14,209
Total liabilities and Shareholders' equity	34,959

B- Accrued expenses

Because of the matching, principle, under which transactions and other events are reported in the periods to which they relate and not when cash is received or paid, balance sheets usually include accrued expenses. These are expenses that have accumulated or built up during the accounting year but will not be paid until the following year, after the date of the balance sheet. So accrued expenses are charged against income — that is, deducted from profits — even though the bills have not yet been received or the cash paid. Accrued expenses could include taxes and utility bills, for example, electricity and water.

C- Shareholders' equity on the balance sheet

Shareholders' equity is recorded on the same part of the balance sheet as liabilities.

because it is money belonging to the shareholders and not the company.

Shareholders' equity includes:

- the original share capital (money from stocks or shares issued by the company)
- share premium: money made if the company sells shares at above their face value — the value written on them
- retained earnings: profits from previous years that have not been distributed to shareholders
- reserves: funds set aside from share capital and earnings, retained for emergencies or other future needs.

BrE: share premium; AmE paid-in surplus

D- Exercise:

- **Are the following statements true or false? Find reasons for your answers in A, B and C opposite.**

- 1- A current liability will be paid before the date of the balance sheet.
- 2- A liability that must be paid in 13 months' time is classified as long-term.
- 3- A company's accrued expenses are like money an individual saves to pay bills in the future.
- 4- Shareholders' equity consists of the money paid for shares, and retained earnings.
- 5- If companies retain part of their profits, this money no longer belongs to the owners.
- 6- Companies can sell shares at a higher value than the one stated on them.

- **Find words in A, B, and C opposite with the following meanings.**

- 1- Money that will be paid in less than 12 months from the balance sheet date.

- 2- The money that investors have paid to buy newly issued shares, minus the shares' face value.
- 3- Delayed, put off, or postponed until a later time.
- 4- Built up or increased over a period of time.