Accounting: AS Level and A Level

CAMBRIDGE

AS Level and A Level Accounting

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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

http://www.cambridge.org

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First published 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 0 521 53993 5 paperback

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover image © Philip James Corwin/CORBIS

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Part I **The accounting system**

Double-entry bookkeeping: cash transactions

In this chapter you will learn:

- that every transaction has two aspects
- that double-entry bookkeeping records both aspects of a transaction
- what ledger accounts are
- the meanings of the terms 'debit' and 'credit'
- · how to record cash transactions in ledger accounts.

1.1 What is double-entry bookkeeping?

Double-entry bookkeeping is a system of recording transactions that recognises that there are two sides (or aspects) to every transaction. For example, you give your friend \$10 in exchange for his watch. This involves you giving him \$10 (one aspect) and your friend receiving \$10 (the other aspect). The transfer of the watch involves him giving you the watch (one aspect) and you receiving his watch (the other aspect). Every transaction involves giving and receiving. It is important that you *recognise* and *record* both aspects of every transaction in your bookkeeping.

1.2 Ledger accounts

Transactions are recorded in **ledger accounts**. An account is a history of all transactions of a similar nature. A ledger is a book that contains accounts. An account separates what is received from what is given. For example, a Cash account records cash received and cash paid, as shown:

Cash							
Debit			Credit				
		\$			\$		
Mar 1	Cash received from customers	240	Mar 2	Cash paid to suppliers	80		
Mar 4	Cash received from customers	118	Mar 3	Wages paid	116		

The left-hand side of the account is called the debit side and is used to record cash received (that is, coming into the account). The right-hand side of the account is the credit side and shows cash paid (that is, going out of the account). All accounts have a debit side on the left to

record what is received, and a credit side on the right to record what is given. In practice, the words 'debit' and 'credit' are not shown because bookkeepers do not need to be reminded of them.

1.3 How to record cash transactions

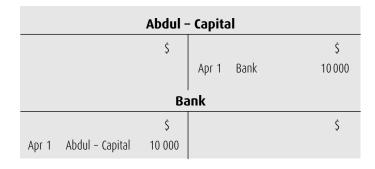
Bookkeeping treats businesses as 'persons' with separate identities from their owners. For example, if Abdul is a trader, all his business transactions are recorded as those of the business and not as Abdul's own transactions.

In the example that follows, some transactions are recorded in ledger accounts. Make sure you understand the bookkeeping entries, and observe the wording carefully. This is important as you must be able to record transactions in ledger accounts correctly.

Example

(Here all transactions are recorded from the point of view of Abdul's business, not from the point of view of the people with whom the business deals.)

Transaction 1 April 1. Abdul starts business as a trader by paying \$10 000 into a Bank account which he opens for the business. Abdul gives, and the business receives, \$10 000. An account for Abdul will be opened (his Capital account) and credited with his 'capital'. The business Bank account will be debited.



Note. Each entry is dated and shows the name of the other account in which the double entry is completed. Make sure you show these details for every entry you make in a ledger account.

Entries in ledger accounts are known as **postings**, and bookkeepers are said to 'post' transactions to the accounts.

Transaction 2 April 2. Abdul buys a motor vehicle for the business and pays \$2000 from the business Bank account. A Motor Vehicles account must be opened.

Bank						
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	\$ 10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	\$ 2000	
Motor Vehicles						
		\$			\$	
Apr 2	Bank	2 000				

Transaction 3 April 3. Abdul buys stock (goods which he will re-sell in the normal course of trade) for \$3000 and pays by cheque.

Bank							
		\$			\$		
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000		
			Apr 3	Purchases	3000		
Purchases							
		\$			\$		
Apr 3	Bank	3 000					

Note. Purchases of stock are always debited to a Purchases account. An account called Stock account is used for a special purpose, which will be explained in chapter 7.

Transaction 4 April 4. Abdul sells a quantity of stock for \$800 and banks the cash.

Bank						
		\$			\$	
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000	
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000	
Sales						
		\$			\$	
			Apr 4	Bank	800	

Sales of stock are always credited to Sales account, never to Stock account.

Transaction 5 April 7. A customer returns some goods and receives a refund of \$40.

Bank						
		\$			\$	
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000	
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000	
			Apr 7	Sales Returns	40	
Sales Returns						
		\$			\$	
Apr 7	Bank	40				

Note. Goods returned are not debited to Sales account but to Sales Returns account. This account is also known as Goods Inwards account.

Transaction 6 April 8. Abdul returns some goods costing \$100 to a supplier and receives a refund.

Bank							
		\$			\$		
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000		
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000		
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40		
Purchases Returns							
		\$			\$		
			Apr 8	Bank	100		

Note. Goods returned to a supplier are credited to Purchases Returns account. This account is also known as Goods Outwards account.

Transaction 7 April 10. Abdul buys another motor vehicle for the business and pays \$4000 by cheque.

Bank							
		\$			\$		
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000		
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000		
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40		
			Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000		
	Motor Vehicles						
		\$			\$		
Apr 2	Bank	2 000					
Apr 10	Bank	4 000					

Note. As explained in §1.2, an account is a history of all transactions of a similar nature. Therefore it is not necessary to open another account for the second motor vehicle. Similarly, all purchases of office equipment are posted to Office Equipment account, and all purchases of office furniture are posted to Office Furniture account. You will encounter other examples such as plant and machinery, and fixtures and fittings.

Transaction 8 April 11. Tania lends the business \$5000.

Bank							
		\$			\$		
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000		
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000		
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40		
Apr 11	Tania – Loan	5 000	Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000		
	Tania – Loan						
		\$			\$		
			Apr 11	Bank	5000		

Transaction 9 April 12. Abdul pays rent on a warehouse by cheque, \$1000.

Bank							
		\$			\$		
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000		
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	000		
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40		
Apr 11	Tania – Loan	5 000	Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000		
			Apr 12	Rent Payable	1000		
	Rent Payable						
					<u> </u>		
		\$			\$		
Apr 12	Bank	1 000					

Transaction 10 April 14. Abdul sublets part of the warehouse and receives \$300 rent.

Bank					
		\$			\$
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40
Apr 11	Tania – Loan	5 000	Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000
Apr 14	Rent Receivable	300	Apr 12	Rent Payable	1000

Rent Receivable				
\$		\$		
	Apr 14 Bank	300		

Note. Rent receivable is not posted to the Rent Payable account. It is important to keep income and expenditure in separate accounts.

Transaction 11 April 15. Abdul pays wages by cheque, \$1200.

Bank					
		\$			\$
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40
Apr 11	Tania – Loan	5 000	Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000
Apr 4	Rent Receivable	300	Apr 12	Rent Payable	1000
			Apr 15	Wages	1200
		Wa	ges		
		\$			\$
Apr 15	Bank	1 200			

Transaction 12 April 16. Abdul withdraws \$600 from the business Bank account for personal use.

Bank					
		\$			\$
Apr 1	Abdul – Capital	10 000	Apr 2	Motor Vehicles	2000
Apr 4	Sales	800	Apr 3	Purchases	3000
Apr 8	Purchases Returns	100	Apr 7	Sales Returns	40
Apr 11	Tania – Loan	5 000	Apr 10	Motor Vehicles	4000
Apr 14	Rent Receivable	300	Apr 12	Rent Payable	1000
			Apr 15	Wages	1200
			Apr 16	Drawings	600
Drawings					
		\$			\$
Apr 16	Bank	600			

Note. Money drawn out of a business by the owner for personal use is debited to a Drawings account, not to the owner's Capital account.

Exercise 1

Open the necessary ledger accounts and post the following transactions to them.

- **May 1** Martine started business as a florist by paying \$3000 into a business Bank account.
 - 2 Charline lent the business \$1000.
 Martine then had the following transactions.
 - **3** Paid rent, \$100.
 - **4** Purchased shop fittings, \$400. Purchased stock of flowers \$300.
 - **5** Received refund of \$20 for flowers returned to supplier.
 - **6** Sold some flowers and received \$40.
 - **7** Paid wages, \$60.
 - **8** Withdrew \$100 for personal use.

Exercise 2

Complete the entries for the following table. The first item has been done for you.

	Debit account	Credit account
 Noel pays a cheque into his busine Bank account as capital 	ss Bank	Noel – Capital
2. Purchases some stock and pays by cheque		
3. Sells some stock and banks the takings		
4. Pays rent by cheque		
5. Purchases shop fittings and pays by cheque		
6. Cashes cheque for personal expense	es	
7. Pays wages by cheque		
8. Returns stock to supplier and banks refund		
9. Receives rent from tenant and bank cheque	(S	
10. Refunds money to customer by cheque for goods returned		
11. Motor vehicle purchased and paid f by cheque	or	
12. Pays for petrol for motor vehicle an pays by cheque	d	

1.4 Examination hints

• All transactions are recorded from the point of view of the business, not from those of its customers and suppliers.

- When recording transactions think very carefully about which account 'gives' and which account 'receives'. Credit the account that 'gives' and debit the account that 'receives'.
- Make sure you complete the double entry for every transaction before starting to record the next one.
- Date every entry and enter the name of the other account in which the double entry is completed in the details column.
- If you make a mistake in an exercise, study the answer given at the end of the book and make sure you understand what you should have done *and why*.

1.5 Multiple-choice questions

1 Joel occupies part of Natasha's business premises. Which entries in Natasha's books record the rent Joel pays her?

	Debit account	Credit account
Α	Bank	Rent Payable
В	Bank	Rent Receivable
C	Rent Payable	Bank
D	Rent Receivable	Bank

2 Yasmina purchased some office equipment for use in her business. The equipment was faulty and she returned it to the supplier who refunded the cost to Yasmina.

Which entries in Yasmina's books record the return of the equipment?

	Debit account	Credit account
A	Bank	Purchase Returns
В	Bank	Office Equipment
C	Purchases Returns	Bank
D	Office Equipment	Bank

3 A trader withdraws money from his business Bank account for personal expenses.

Which entries record this in his books?

	Debit account	Credit account
A	Bank	Capital
В	Bank	Drawings
C	Capital	Bank
D	Drawings	Bank

4 A trader returns goods to the supplier and receives a refund.

Which entries record the refund in the trader's books?

	Debit account	Credit account
A	Bank	Purchases
В	Bank	Purchases Returns
C	Purchases	Bank
D	Purchases Returns	Bank

1.6 Additional exercises

- 1 Open the necessary ledger accounts and post the following transactions to them.
- **June 1** Farook commenced business by paying \$15 000 into his business Bank account.
 - Amna lent the business \$5000.
 - Farook then had the following business transactions:
 - 2 Purchased premises and paid \$8000.

- **3** Bought office furniture for \$2000 and paid by cheque.
- **4** Paid \$5000 by cheque for goods for re-sale.
- **5** Sold some goods for \$1500 and banked the proceeds.
- **6** Paid insurance premium by cheque, \$600.
- **7** Bought motor van and paid \$3000 by cheque.
- **8** Drew cheque for \$50 to pay for petrol for motor van.
- **9** Bought some goods costing \$2000 for re-sale and paid by cheque.
- **10** Sold goods for \$2400 and banked the proceeds. Drew cheque for wages, \$400.
- **11** Repaid \$1200 by cheque to customers for goods returned.
- **12** Received a refund of \$900 from suppliers for goods returned.
- **13** Received a refund of insurance of \$100. Withdrew \$200 from business bank account for personal expenses.
- **14** Returned some office furniture that was damaged and received a refund of \$800.
- **15** Repaid \$1000 of the loan from Amna.
- **2** Complete the entries for the following table with information taken from the accounts of a trader.

	Debit account	Credit account
1. Local taxes paid by cheque		
2. Bank pays interest to trader		
3. Sundry expenses paid by cheque		
4. Postage and stationery paid by cheque		
5. Telephone bill paid by cheque		
6. Carriage inwards* paid by cheque		
7. Carriage outwards** paid by cheque		
8. Interest paid by cheque to brother in respect of a loan received from him		
9. Interest paid to bank		

^{*} Carriage inwards is the delivery cost added to the price of goods by the supplier.

^{**} Carriage outwards is the cost of delivering goods to a customer.

Double-entry bookkeeping: credit transactions

In this chapter you will learn:

- how to record transactions which do not involve immediate cash payments in ledger accounts
- the difference between trade and cash discounts and how to treat them.

2.1 What are credit transactions?

Many transactions take place without any money being paid or received at the time. For example, Lai sells goods to Chin for \$500 on 31 May and gives Chin until 30 June to pay. The transaction is 'on credit'. The sale has taken place on 31 May and must be recorded in the books of both Lai and Chin at that date. No entries to record payment are made in their books until Chin pays Lai.

2.2 How to record credit transactions

In a seller's books A sale on credit is credited to Sales account and debited to an account opened for the customer. When the customer pays, his or her account is credited, and the Bank account debited.

In a customer's books A purchase on credit is debited to Purchases account and credited to an account opened for the supplier. When the supplier is paid, his or her account is debited, and the Bank account credited.

Example

Lai sells goods to Chin for \$500 on 31 May and gives Chin until 30 June to pay.

In Lai's books Credit the sale to Sales account and debit it to an account for Chin.

Sales					
	\$		\$		
		May 31 Chin	500		
	Chin				
	\$		\$		
May 31 Sales	500				

The debit entry in Chin's account shows that he is a **debtor** in Lai's books; that is, Chin owes Lai \$500 until he pays for the goods.

In Chin's books Debit the purchase to Purchases account and credit it to an account for Lai.

Purchases					
	\$		\$		
May 31 Lai	500				
Lai					
	\$		\$		
		May 31 Purchases	500		

The credit entry in Lai's account shows that he is a **creditor** in Chin's books.

Goods returned

On 4 June Chin returns some of the goods costing \$100 to Lai because they are damaged.

In Lai's books Credit Chin's account and debit Sales Returns account.

Chin						
May 31 S	Sales 5	\$ 00 Jun	4 Sal	es Returns	\$ 100	
	Sal	es Retu	rns			
	:	\$			\$	
Jun 4	Chin 1	00				

In Chin's books Debit Lai's account and credit Purchases Returns account.

Lai						
Jun 4	Purchases Returns	\$ 100	May 3	I Purchases	\$ 500	
Juli 4	Tulchases Retuins	100	I May 5	i i dicilases	300	
	Pu	rchase	s Retu	rns		
		\$			\$	
			Jun 4	Lai	100	

2.3 How to record payments for goods bought or sold on credit

Trade discount

Trade discount is an allowance made by one trader to another. In the above example, the goods which Lai sold to Chin may have been sold normally for \$625. Lai knows that Chin, also a trader, must make a profit on the goods when he sells them. He has allowed Chin a **trade discount** of \$125 (20% of \$625) so that if Chin sells the goods for \$625 he will make a profit of \$125.

Note. Although the normal price of the goods was \$625, the transaction was for \$500 only, and only \$500 is entered into the books of both Lai and Chin. Trade discount is *never* recorded in ledger accounts.

Cash (or settlement) discount

Lai has given Chin one month to pay for the goods. To encourage Chin to pay by 30 June, Lai may allow Chin to pay less than the amount due. This allowance is a cash (or settlement) discount. (Notice the difference between cash discount and trade discount: trade discount is not dependent on payment being made promptly, or even at all.)

Note. Cash discounts are *always* recorded in ledger accounts.

Suppose Lai has allowed Chin a cash discount of 5% provided Chin pays by 30 June, and Chin pays Lai on 28 June. Chin owes Lai \$400 (\$500 – \$100). 5% of \$400 = \$20. He will therefore pay only \$380.

In Lai's books Debit the discount to Discounts Allowed account.

Chin						
\$			\$			
500	Jun 4	Sales Returns	100			
	Jun 28	Bank	380			
			20			
_	•					
Ва	nk					
\$			\$			
380						
Discounts Allowed						
\$			\$			
20						
	\$ 500 Ba \$ 380 Discounts	\$ 500 Jun 4 Jun 28 Jun 28 Bank \$ 380 Discounts Allow	\$ 500 Jun 4 Sales Returns Jun 28 Bank Jun 28 Discounts Allowed Bank \$ 380 Discounts Allowed \$			

In Chin's books Credit the discount to Discounts Received account.

Lai						
		\$			\$	
Jun 4	Purchases Returns	100	May 31	Purchases	500	
Jun 28	Bank	380				
Jun 28	Discounts Received	20				
Bank						
	\$					
			Jun 28	Lai	380	
Discounts Received						
		\$			\$	
			Jun 28	Lai	20	

Example

Andrew had the following transactions in May.

- **May 1** Purchased goods from David. The goods cost \$1000 less 10% trade discount.
 - **2** Purchased goods from Rodney for \$1600 less 15% trade discount.
 - 3 Purchased a computer for the office on credit from Bernard for \$2000
 - **4** Sold goods to Mario for \$800.
 - 5 Returned goods which had cost \$100 after trade discount to David
 - 6 Purchased goods from Ludovic for \$700 less trade discount of 20%.
 - **7** Sold goods to Ravin for \$500.
 - **8** Mario returned goods which had been sold to him for \$40.

- **9** Received cheque from Ravin for amount owing, less cash discount of 5%.
- **10** Paid amount owing to David, less cash discount of 5%.
- **11** Paid amount owing to Rodney, less cash discount of 5%. Paid Bernard for computer.
- Received cheque from Mario for amount owing, less 5% cash discount.Paid amount owing to Ludovic, less 5% cash discount.

These transactions are recorded as follows.

David						
	\$			\$		
May 5 Purchases Returns	100	May 1	Purchases	900		
May 10 Bank	760					
May 10 Discounts Received	40					
	Roc	Iney				
	\$			\$		
May 11 Bank	1292	May 2	Purchases	1360		
May 11 Discounts Received	68					
	Ber	nard				
	\$			\$		
May 11 Bank	2000	May 3	Office Computer	2000		
			·			
		ovic				
	\$			\$		
May 12 Bank	532	May 6	Purchases	560		
May 12 Discounts Received	28					
	Ma	огіо				
	\$			\$		
May 4 Sales	800	May 8	Sales Returns	40		
		May 12	Bank	722		
		May 12	Discounts Allowed	38		
	Ra	ı vin				
	\$			\$		
May 7 Sales	500	May 9	Bank	475		
		May 9	Discounts Allowed	25		

Purchases						
	\$		\$			
May 1 David	900					
May 2 Rodney	1360					
May 6 Ludovic	560					
	Purchase	s Returns				
	\$		\$			
	·	May 5 David	100			
	Ca	les				
	\$	les	\$			
	\$	May 4 Mario	\$ 800			
		May 4 Mario May 7 Ravin	500			
		May 7 Kaviii	300			
	Sales 1	Returns				
	\$		\$			
May 8 Mario	40					
	Discount	s Allowed				
	\$		\$			
May 9 Ravin	25					
May 12 Mario	38					
	Discounts	Received				
	\$		\$			
		May 10 David	40			
		May 11 Rodney	68			
		May 12 Ludovic	28			
	Office C	omputer				
	\$		\$			
May 3 Bernard	2000					
	Ва	ı ınk				
	\$		\$			
May 9 Ravin	475	May 10 David	760			
May 12 Mario	722	May 11 Rodney	1292			
		May 11 Bernard	2000			
		May 12 Ludovic	532			

Calculations

Purchases:	Amount before trade discount	Trade discount	Cost to Andrew	
	\$	\$	\$	
From: David	1000	(10%) 100	900	
Rodney	1600	(15%) 240	1360	
Ludovic	700	(20%) 140	560	
Cash settlements:	Amount before cash discount	Cash discount (5%)	Amount paid	
	\$	\$	\$	
By Ravin	500	25	475	
Mario	760	38	722	

Exercise 1

Post the following transactions in the books of Geraud.

June 1 Purchased goods from Khor which cost \$3000 less trade discount of 10%.

- **5** Sold goods to Lai for \$600.
- **10** Returned goods which had cost Geraud \$200 to Khor.
- **15** Purchased goods from Lim which cost \$2800 before trade discount of 10%.
- 20 Sold goods to Chin for \$1300.
- 25 Lai returned goods which had cost him \$200.
- **30** Geraud paid Khor and Lim the amounts due to them after deducting 5% cash discount.

Lai and Chin paid Geraud the amounts they owed him after deducting 5% cash discount.

2.4 Examination hints

- Remember to record all transactions from the point of view of the business, not from those of its customers and suppliers.
- Where trade discounts are given, record all amounts net of trade discount.
- Note carefully whether cash discount is to be deducted from settlements.
- Remember to complete the entries for cash discounts to the correct Discount accounts.
- Be accurate in all your calculations.

2.5 Multiple-choice questions

1 Davina bought goods on credit from Sharon for \$600 less trade discount of \$120.

Which entries record this transaction in Davina's books?

	Account to be debited	Account to be credited
Α	Purchases \$480	Sharon \$480
В	Purchases \$480 Discounts Allowed \$120	Sharon \$600
C	Purchases \$600	Sharon \$600
D	Purchases \$600	Sharon \$480 Discounts Received \$120

2 Kristal bought goods on credit from Prisca. The goods had a list price of \$1000 but Prisca allowed Kristal trade discount of 10% and cash discount of 4%.

How much did Kristal have to pay Prisca?

A \$860 **B** \$864 **C** \$900 **D** \$960

3 Shirley bought goods from Corrine. The goods had a list price of \$800. Corrine allowed Shirley trade discount of 20% and cash discount of 5%.

In Corrine's books, which entries record the cheque she received from Shirley?

	Account to be debited	Account to be credited
A	Bank \$608 Discounts Allowed \$32	Shirley \$640
В	Bank \$608 Discounts Received \$32	Shirley \$640
C	Bank \$608 Discounts Allowed \$152	Shirley \$760
D	Bank \$608 Discounts Received \$152	Shirley \$760

2.6 Additional exercises

- 1 Fleming had the following transactions.
- July 1 Purchased goods from Adams for \$5000 less trade discount of 15%. Adams allowed Fleming 4% cash discount.
 - **4** Purchased goods from Bond for \$2500 less trade discount of 10%. Bond allowed Fleming 4% cash discount.
 - **5** Returned goods which had cost \$600 to Adams.
 - **7** Purchased goods from Astle for \$7000 less trade discount of 20%. Astle allowed Fleming 5% cash discount.
 - **9** Returned goods which had cost \$800 to Astle.
 - **10** Purchased goods from Cairns for \$4200 less 10% trade discount. Cairns allowed Fleming 5% cash discount.
 - **14** Fleming settled all accounts owing to his suppliers by cheque, taking advantage of the cash discount in each case.

Required

Post the transactions listed above in Fleming's books in good form.

- **2** Streak had the following transactions in March.
- Mar 1 Sold goods to Blignaut for \$2500 less trade discount of 10%, and allowed him cash discount of 4%.
 - 4 Sold goods to Ebrahim for \$4000 less trade discount of 15%, and allowed him cash discount of 5%.
 - **6** Ebrahim returned goods which had cost him \$200.
 - 8 Sold goods to Friend for \$3200 less trade discount of 20%, and allowed him cash discount of 5%.
 - 12 Sold goods to Flower for \$2000 less trade discount of 10%, and allowed him cash discount of 4%.
 - **14** Flower returned goods which had cost him \$350.
 - **15** Blignaut, Ebrahim, Friend and Flower settled their accounts by cheque, each taking advantage of cash discount.

Required

Post the transactions listed above in Streak's books in good form.

Books of prime (or original) entry

In this chapter you will learn:

- the purpose of books of prime entry
- how to enter transactions in books of prime entry
- how to post transactions from the books of prime entry to ledger accounts.

3.1 What is a book of prime entry?

A book of prime entry is used to list all transactions of a similar kind before they are posted to ledger accounts. They are sometimes known as books of first (or original) entry but for convenience they will be referred to as books of prime entry in this text. Because they list transactions before they are posted to ledger accounts they are outside the double-entry model. It is important to remember that they are not part of double-entry bookkeeping. There is, however, one exception to this rule, and that is the cash book, as explained later in §3.4.

The names of the books of prime entry and their uses are:

Book of prime entry	Use
Sales journal (or sales day book)	To record all sales made on credit. The entries are made from copies of invoices sent to customers.
Sales returns book (or sales returns journal, or returns inwards journal)	To record all goods returned from customers. When customers return goods that were bought on credit they are sent credit notes showing the amount credited to their account for the returns. The sales returns book is prepared from the copies of credit notes sent to customers.
Purchases journal (or purchases day book)	To record all purchases of stock in trade (goods for resale) made on credit. These are entered in the purchases journal from suppliers' invoices.
Purchases returns journal (or purchases returns book, or returns outwards journal)	To record all goods returned to suppliers. The purchases returns journal is prepared from credit notes received from suppliers.
Cash book	To record all cash transactions. (But see §3.4.)
Journal (or general journal)	To record all transactions for which there is no other book of prime entry. (Also see §3.11.)

3.2 How to write up books of prime entry

Example

Jayasuriya has sent and received the following invoices and credit notes.

Invoices sent to cust	omers	Amount of invoice	
May 1 Atapattu		2350	
May 4 de Silva		1746	
May 6 Arnold		520	
Credit notes sent to	customers	Amount of credit note	
		\$	
May 3 Atapattu		350	
May 5 de Silva		146	
May 7 Arnold		60	
Invoices received fro	m suppliers	Amount of invoice	
		\$	
May 2 Vaas		5000	
May 5 Fernando		3600	
May 7 Mubarak		2200	
Credit notes received	from supplie	ers Amount of credit note	
		\$	
May 6 Vaas		1000	
May 7 Fernando		600	
The transactions will	be entered in	n the books of prime entry as fo	ollows:
Sales journal	\$	Sales returns journal	\$
May 1 Atapattu	2350	May 3 Atapattu	350
May 4 de Silva	1746	May 5 de Silva	146
May 6 Arnold	520	May 7 Arnold	60
	<u>4616</u>		<u>556</u>
Purchases journal	\$	Purchases returns journal	\$
May 2 Vaas	5 000	May 6 Vaas	1000
May 5 Fernando	3 600	May 7 Fernando	600
May 7 Mubarak	2 200		<u>1600</u>
	<u>10 800</u>		

3.3 How to post from books of prime entry to ledger accounts

Example

Use the information in the books of prime entry in §3.2. **Step 1** Post each item in the books of prime entry to the supplier's or customer's account in the ledger following the procedure already learned in chapter 2, but do not post them to the Purchases, Purchases Returns, Sales or Sales Returns accounts.

	Atapattu							
		\$			\$			
May 1	Sales	2350	May 3	Sales Returns	350			
		de s	Silva					
		\$			\$			
May 4	Sales	1746	May 5	Sales Returns	146			
		Arr	old					
		\$			\$			
May 6	Sales	520	May 7	Sales Returns	60			
		Va	as					
		\$			\$			
May 6	Purchases Returns	1000	May 2	Purchases	5000			
		_						
		Fern	ando					
		\$			\$			
May 7	Purchases Returns	600	May 5	Purchases	3600			
		Mub	arak					
		\$			\$			
			May 7	Purchases	2200			

Step 2 Post the total of each book of prime entry to the Sales, Sales Returns, Purchases or Purchases Returns accounts, as appropriate.

Sales						
		\$			\$	
			May 7	Sales journal total	4616	
Sales Returns						
		\$			\$	
May 7	Sales returns journal total	556				

Purchases							
		\$			\$		
May 7	Purchases journal total	10 800					
	Purchases Returns						
		\$			\$		
			May 7	Purchases returns journal total	1600		

3.4 The cash book

A cash book is the book of prime entry for all cash transactions; but we have already seen in chapter 1 that it is also an account. It is the only book of prime entry that is also part of the double-entry model.

The cash book is also used as the book of prime entry for cash discounts. A column is provided on the debit side of the Bank account to record discounts allowed, and a column on the credit side to record discounts received.

Bank						
	Discounts	Bank		Discounts	Bank	
	(allowed)			(received)		
	\$	\$		\$	\$	

The words 'allowed' and 'received' are usually omitted because bookkeepers know which is which.

3.5 How to enter discounts in the cash book

When a payment is received from a customer who has deducted cash discount, enter the amount of the discount in the discounts allowed column next to the amount received in the bank column.

Enter discounts received from suppliers in the discounts received column next to the amount paid in the bank column.

Example

All payments due from customers and all payments to suppliers in §3.2 were settled on 7 May. In each case, cash discount of 5% was allowed or received.

Bank						
	Discounts (allowed)	Bank		Discounts (received)	Bank	
	` \$ ´	\$		` \$ ´	\$	
May 7 Attapattu	100	1900	May 7 Vaas	200	3800	
May 7			May 7			
de Silva May 7	80	1520	Fernando May 7	150	2850	
Arnold	23	437	Mubarak	<u>110</u>	2090	
	<u>203</u>			<u>460</u>		

Atapattu							
	\$		\$				
May 1 Sales	2350	May 3 Sales Returns	350				
		May 7 Bank	1900				
		May 7 Discounts Allowed	100				
May 7 Discounts Allowed 100 de Silva \$							
\$ \$							
May 4 Sales		May 5 Sales Returns	146				
,		, '	1520				
		May 7 Discounts Allowed	80				
		old					
	\$		\$				
May 6 Sales	520		60				
		,	437				
		May 7 Discounts Allowed	23				
	Va	as					
	\$		\$				
May 6 Purchases Returns	1000	May 2 Purchases	5000				
May 7 Bank	3800						
May 7 Discounts Received	200						
	Fern	ı ando					
	\$		\$				
May 7 Purchases Returns	· ·	May 5 Purchases	3600				
May 7 Bank	2850	Midy 5 Tolchoses	3000				
May 7 Discounts Received 150							
may 7 discounts received	150						
	Mub	arak					
	\$		\$				
May 7 Bank	2090	May 7 Purchases	2200				
May 7 Discounts Received	110						