Submitting IRC® examination “items” (see definition below) can be a very helpful way for certification holders to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) necessary for certification renewal, and to help refresh IR practice knowledge.

Active IRC holders are encouraged to submit as many new items as possible, and may claim 1 PDU for every 5 items submitted. Once submitted, the items become the property of NIRI.

When composing IRC examination items, please adhere to the following:

- Type or print clearly.
- Use clear and simple language.
- Use positively worded language.
- Avoid the use of negative wording.
- Select one best response.
- Avoid items that reference specific companies or markets.
- Do not use the options “all of the above” or “none of the above.”
- Use an efficient format. Avoid complex sentence structure.
- Omit irrelevant information.
- Indicate the correct answer by placing an asterisk (*) next to the appropriate letter.
- Be sure the three wrong answers are plausible (i.e. not obviously wrong).
- Be sure to provide the name of the reference used where confirmation of the correct answer can be found. If using online references, please provide the link and the name of the website.

**Sample Item:**

I. Well-crafted corporate messaging should enhance the liquidity of a company's stock because:

A. investors want the most current financial information about the company on a regular basis.
B. it's important to provide head-to-head comparisons with the company's industry peers.
(*) C. high quality, accessible information can increase the number of analysts following the company.
D. the use of non-GAAP data can detract from the consistency of the information provided.

Key: C / Content Area: 4. B.

**Definitions:**

- Item: Question and/or task in examination to which candidates must respond or perform. The item can be a direct question or incomplete statement. The item also includes four possible response options, one correct (“key”), and three incorrect but plausible options (“distractors”).
- Content area: Domain and sub-task found in the IR Competency Framework.

Follow this link to the [IR Competency Framework](https://www.niri.org/competency-framework), the [IRC Examination Blueprint](https://www.niri.org/exam-blueprint), and the [IRC Sample Test](https://www.niri.org/sample-test).

**Happy Item Writing!**
Proposed IRC examination item

Multiple choice answers: (Indicate the correct answer with an asterisk)

( ) A. .................................................................

( ) B. .................................................................

( ) C. .................................................................

( ) D. .................................................................

Item intended for the content area of the IR domain of practice
(e.g. Domain 1-A-3)

Reference used to verify answer

Item submitted by (full name of certificant)
Full name must be provided to claim this submission for PDUs towards IRC certification renewal.

Submission Date .............................................