FBLA-Style Practice Sets

Original practice items written by Synapse Academic Press, calibrated to the format of FBLA objective tests at the time of publication. Not affiliated with or endorsed by FBLA. Verify current event format with FBLA official materials before competing.

All scenarios, names, and numbers below are fictional. Any resemblance to real businesses or persons is coincidental.

How these sets are structured

Each practice set targets one event family. Under each set you will see:

- **Event family** and approximate format (number of items, time limit) based on publicly available event descriptions.
- A **content map** to the print book's chapters.
- **Practice items** (multiple-choice).
- **Answer key with brief explanations.**

For full event coverage, the practice items currently shipped are a representative subset; additional sets will be added in subsequent companion releases.

Set 1 — Personal Finance (FBLA Personal Finance event family)

Approximate format: 100 multiple-choice items in 60 minutes (verify current count). Calculator use varies by competition level — practice both with and without one.

Content covered by: Print Chapters 15, 16, 25, 26, 27.

10-item starter set (15 minutes recommended)

1. A 22-year-old places $200 per month into an account that earns 6% APY, compounded annually, for 40 years. Approximately what balance accumulates by age 62?

A. $96,000
B. $171,000
C. $401,000
D. $612,000

2. Jasmine has a credit-card balance of $4,200 at 22.99% APR. She makes only the minimum payment of 2% of the balance each month. Which of the following is the most likely outcome over 18 months?

A. The balance is paid off completely.
B. The balance falls by approximately one third.
C. The interest charged each month exceeds the principal portion of the minimum payment.
D. The interest rate automatically falls because of the on-time payments.

3. A 27-year-old earns $4,500 monthly take-home pay and applies the 50/30/20 rule. Which of the following allocations is consistent with the rule?

A. $2,250 needs / $1,800 wants / $450 savings and debt
B. $2,250 needs / $1,350 wants / $900 savings and debt
C. $1,800 needs / $1,800 wants / $900 savings and debt
D. $2,700 needs / $900 wants / $900 savings and debt

4. Which of the following is a payroll tax deducted from an employee's gross pay rather than paid by the employer alone?

A. Federal unemployment tax (FUTA)
B. State unemployment tax (SUTA)
C. The employee's portion of FICA (Social Security and Medicare)
D. Workers' compensation insurance premiums

5. A traditional IRA contribution by a young earner offers what tax advantage compared to a Roth IRA?

A. Tax-free withdrawal of all earnings at any age
B. Pre-tax contribution that lowers current-year taxable income
C. Higher annual contribution limit than the Roth
D. Exemption from required minimum distributions

6. Marcus has $3,200 in an emergency fund and total essential monthly expenses of $1,800. By the standard advisor benchmark, his emergency fund is approximately:

A. Less than 1 month of essential expenses
B. Slightly more than 1 month
C. About 3 months
D. About 6 months

7. Which of the following changes would have the largest positive effect on a credit score in 12 months, holding everything else constant?

A. Closing the oldest credit-card account
B. Opening four new credit cards on the same day
C. Paying every bill on time and lowering credit utilization from 60% to 15%
D. Carrying a small monthly balance instead of paying in full

8. Renters insurance for a typical 1-bedroom apartment usually costs:

A. Less than $25 per month
B. $50 to $80 per month
C. $100 to $150 per month
D. More than $200 per month

9. Which insurance type is generally NOT recommended for a 24-year-old single adult with no dependents and adequate emergency savings?

A. Health insurance
B. Auto insurance (if they own and drive a car)
C. Renters insurance
D. Whole life insurance

10. Among the following debt-payoff approaches, which mathematically minimizes total interest paid?

A. Snowball method (smallest balance first)
B. Avalanche method (highest APR first)
C. Equal-payment method (same dollar amount across all debts)
D. Round-robin method (one month per debt)

Answer key for Set 1

#	Answer	Explanation
1	C	$200/month at 6% over 40 years compounds to roughly $400,000. The Rule of 72 confirms doubling every 12 years — six doublings over 40 years on the principal contribution alone.
2	C	At 23% APR, the monthly interest charge on $4,200 is roughly $80; the 2% minimum is $84. Almost the entire payment goes to interest, so the balance barely falls.
3	B	50% × $4,500 = $2,250; 30% = $1,350; 20% = $900. Only choice B matches all three.

#	Answer	Explanation
4	C	FICA (Social Security 6.2% + Medicare 1.45%) is split between employer and employee. The other taxes listed are employer-paid only.
5	B	Traditional IRA contributions are pre-tax (current-year deduction); Roth contributions are after-tax. The Roth's advantage is tax-free withdrawals later.
6	B	$3,200 / $1,800 ≈ 1.78 months. Slightly more than 1 month, well below the 3-month benchmark.
7	C	Payment history (35% of FICO) and credit utilization (30%) are the two heaviest weighted factors. Improving both has the biggest single-year impact.
8	A	Average renters policies cost $12–$20 per month for typical coverage. Choice A is the only realistic range.
9	D	Whole life insurance is rarely recommended for a young adult without dependents. The other three address risks the household actually faces.
10	B	The avalanche method targets the highest interest rate first, mathematically minimizing total interest. The snowball method may finish a debt faster but costs more in total interest.

Set 2 — Accounting I (FBLA Accounting I event family)

Approximate format: 100 multiple-choice items in 60 minutes (verify current count). Speed-drill priorities: gross-profit math, balance-sheet equation, journal-entry direction (debits/credits).

Content covered by: Print Chapters 17, 19, 20.

Status

A 10-item starter set is queued for the next companion release. The structure follows the same format as Set 1 above. Sample item types you should expect: multi-line income-statement excerpts where the student computes gross profit margin to one decimal place, balance-sheet completeness checks, classification of expenses as direct/indirect or fixed/variable, and journal-entry direction questions for routine transactions.

Set 3 — Business Calculations (FBLA Business Calculations event family)

Approximate format: 100 calculation-heavy multiple-choice items, time-pressured.

Content covered by: Print Chapters 13, 17–22, 25.

Status

10-item starter set queued. Sample item types: percentage-change calculations across multiple periods, break-even computation in units and dollars, ROI calculation with multi-year cash flows, payroll-deduction calculations from a paystub.

Set 4 — Marketing (FBLA Marketing event family)

Approximate format: 100 multiple-choice items in 60 minutes (verify current count).

Content covered by: Print Chapters 9–14.

Status

10-item starter set queued. Sample item types: customer-segment data interpretation, channel selection (B2B vs. B2C), pricing-strategy fit, marketing-mix decisions, market-research method selection.

Set 5 — Business Management (FBLA Business Management event family)

Approximate format: 100 multiple-choice items in 60 minutes (verify current count).

Content covered by: Print Chapters 1–8, 22–24.

Status

10-item starter set queued. Sample item types: organization-structure choice, leadership-style fit, KPI selection for a given goal, Porter's Five Forces interpretation, decision-criteria comparison.

How to use these sets effectively

1. **Time yourself.** FBLA pacing is tighter than AP pacing — practice with a stopwatch.
2. **Self-score immediately.** Don't bank questions; score each set right after you finish.
3. **Categorize misses.** Track whether you missed by content (re-read the chapter) or by speed (more pacing practice).

4. **Compare against the print-book chapter MCQs** for the same topic — if you're hitting AP-format MCQs at 80%+ but FBLA-style ones at 60%, the gap is format pressure, not content.