

## 5.5 CONTROL ACCOUNTS (section 8.3.3)

The Control Accounts section of the syllabus is a process of verifying the operation of the double entry system. This section specifically deals with the checking and correction of the debtors and creditors ledgers.

This area was included in the old syllabus and is essentially the same in the new syllabus. It is best taught after extensive treatment of the double entry process. It is important that students have a good grasp of individual debtor's and creditor's accounts i.e. what entries they contain and where the information comes from (books of first entry).

Students should realise that a Control Account is nothing more than a TOTAL account i.e. Total Debtor's Account. They should also realise that the entries in a Control Account are the same entries as would appear in an individual debtor's account but the figures are the totals from the nominal ledger as they would affect debtor's/creditors accounts. The purpose of this is to have an independent system of checking on the accuracy of the entries in the individual accounts in the Debtor's Ledger. It is important that students understand that the entries in the Control Account are obtained from the totals of the nominal ledger and not from the sum of or an analysis of individual entries in debtor's accounts.

The assessment of this area will be based on the pattern and models already established at Leaving Certificate.