

GCSE Business Studies Parental Guidance Sheet

GCSE Business Studies is operated by the AQA exam board (Exam code: 8132). Full details of the course specification and content are available at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business/gcse/business-8132>

The dates of the examinations are as follows:

Paper 1 Wednesday May 20th 2020 (pm)

Paper 2 Tuesday June 2nd 2020 (pm)

Paper 1: Influences of operations and HRM on business activity	+	Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance on business activity
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Business in the real world</u> <u>Influences on business</u> <u>Business operations</u> <u>Human resources</u> 	★	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Business in the real world</u> <u>Influences on business</u> <u>Marketing</u> <u>Finance</u>
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 90 marks 50% of GCSE 		How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 90 marks 50% of GCSE
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A has multiple choice questions and short answer questions worth 20 marks. Section B has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 34 marks. Section C has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 36 marks. 		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A has multiple choice questions and short answer questions worth 20 marks. Section B has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 34 marks. Section C has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 36 marks.

Red

indicates the topics which can appear on both papers. Blue indicates the subject specific content related to each paper.

Assessment Guidance

Students will be assessed using a range of techniques, from multiple choice questions, to calculations to extended writing. It is important that they understand **command words**.

STATE		Short / few word answers. Basic knowledge. Avoid full sentences.
IDENTIFY		
LIST		
CALCULATE		Work out using the data in the case study. If there is a formula, write it out. Show workings out.
EXPLAIN		A,B,C technique. State your Answer . This is Because (How? Why?). Consequently (So? Impact?) B and C should be developed more if marks available are greater than 3.
ANALYSE		A,B,C technique. State your Answer . This is Because (How? Why?). Consequently (So? Impact?) B and C should be developed more if marks available are greater than 3.
EVALUATE		Weigh up the alternative arguments and come to a judgement. (9 & 12 marks)
RECOMMEND		Weigh up the alternative arguments and come to a decision between 2 options. (9 & 12 marks)

Exam Technique

The key exam techniques tested are **analysis**, **application** and **evaluation**.

ANALYSIS involves creating a chain of logical reasoning; working step by step through cause and effect in short linking statements. It involves the use of connective words and phrases. The **A,B,C** technique should be used.

Connectives for Basic Analysis

Because
This will mean that
This is likely to lead to
As a result
Therefore
So
The impact would be
Consequently
Subsequently

Connectives for Evaluative Analysis

Although this will depend on...
This is the most important because...
This is significant because...
A consequence of this might be..... (e.g. cost, motivation, quality, and other factors)
Even though in the short-term.....in the long-term (e.g. high cost initially, but low unit cost later)

3, 6, 9 and 12 mark answers all require good analysis. **Effective analysis is applied.** Students must **select** knowledge **relevant** to the situations and circumstances faced by a business / entrepreneur in a case study.

Discuss with and test your child on the specific structures which they should use for 9 and 12 mark questions.

9 marks - Analyse and Evaluate technique - use Evaluative connectives when justifying your recommendation

1 option 9 mark question

I recommend that.....
Even though (negative of your recommendation) (A, B, C)
I still recommend ? because ... (specifically explain why your choice/recommendation is better than the alternative)
(specifically explain why choice/recommendation is better than the alternative)

2 option 9 mark question

I recommend that.....
Even though (a positive and negative of your rejected option - A,B,C)
I still recommend because

12 marks - Analyse and Evaluation technique - use both Analysis and Evaluative connectives

Define key term in the question

Paragraph 1 (bullet point 1)

PEE (Point, explained with examples using A,B,C technique) - (Positive and negative relating to the point)

Paragraph 2 (bullet point 2)

PEE (Point, explained with examples using A,B,C technique) - (Positive and negative relating to the point)

DISCO CONCLUSION

Decide (most important?)

It depends

Short term/long term

Cost

- . -

Revision Materials

Students have revision notes for each unit of study covered in the specification:

1. Business in the real world
2. Influences on business
3. Business operations
4. Human resources
5. Marketing
6. Finance

Online revision resources are limited but some support can be found on the website “Tutor2u”.

There are several revision guides available to purchase, for example, CPG. It is important however, to ensure that the guide selected is for the **AQA Grade 9-1** course (i.e. for the course from September 2017)

Support with student testing to build up knowledge would be helpful. For example, key-terms lists, if learned accurately will support students’ understanding of case-studies and questions. It is essential that numerical formulae are learned by heart also, and that command words are understood. If testing students on their knowledge, encouraging them to consider why, how and cross topic links will support analysis and evaluation. For example, what is delegation? How does it affect business organisation? Why? What impact will it have on the business? Do these impacts affect other aspects of the business such as cost/profit, efficiency, or ethical reputation?