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GCSE Business Studies:

Feedback on June 2012 (Unit 1)

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Changes to Examination

- Moving to Linear approach
- No changes to Specification content

Unit 1: Summary

- All students sit unit 1 (or unit 6 – short course)
- Both units are based on the content classified in the specification in unit 1
- Total 40 marks (20 questions for unit 1)
- 45 minutes

Unit 1: the objective test paper

- Questions will be drawn from the full specification content for this unit.
- Paper is designed to assess candidates across all target grades and therefore needs to ask questions appropriate to different abilities.
- Questions are written with different candidates in mind.

Principal Examiners Report

- Read it through at least twice
- Highlight key issues
- Use as a tool with learners
- Analyse points made in the report against specific types of questions

Helpful Advice

- See end of report
- Practice with candidates
- Get them to write practice answers to questions
- Give them answers to find the question

Additional Points

- Report goes into detail for each question
- Use ResultsPlus to view where your candidates did not do as well
- Occasionally comments are made about slight changes to the layout or style of questions in the paper

Unit 1: Message

- Multiple choice does not – and should not – mean ‘easier’.
- Previous papers and SAMs offer guidance for the types of questions to be asked but are not templates.
- Practice makes perfect

Question Analysis

Question 1

- Used as an introduction to the examination paper
- Gives candidates an opportunity for success with first question

Question 2

- Slightly better answered than in previous years.

Analysis

Question 3

The question was presented in a very different format from questions previously written.

Question 4

Again question looking for the negative of added value

Analysis

Question 5

- More challenging type question
- Topic of Farms/crisps continued from Question 3 and 4

Questions 6 - 9

- Topic of new product brought onto the market and the type of business ownership

Analysis

Questions 10 - 12

- Start of the financial questions
- Considered more difficult by some candidates

Analysis

Questions 13- 15

Again a scenario set for the candidates to consider.

- *Competition*
- *Market Mapping*
- *Taxation*

Analysis

Question 16

Financial question on revenue and costs

Question 17

Evaluation/conclusions from the table

Question 18

Analysis of information

Analysis

Question 19

Entrepreneur question

Question 20

Table of options

Analysis

5BSO6

Differences between papers

- Some questions are not included
- Question 20 – a written question

Strategies for success

- Highlight the key term in the question
- Read all the options carefully. Remember, distracters are designed to appear as though they may be correct, but aren't.
- Rule out those you know are wrong

Objective test questions
Other strategies

- Provide a regular diet of the type of MCQ students can expect to see.

- Plenary activity – write two MCQ questions based on the content of today's lesson.

- Provide 4 options (A-D) – students have to think of the question that could be asked (and what grade it is targeting).

Statistics

If you would like to know more about examination statistics, you may find these links of interest to you.

Examination Results Statistics

www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/stats.aspx

Results statistics summarise the overall grade outcomes of candidates sitting Edexcel examinations.

Grade Boundaries

http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx

This page shows the minimum marks needed to achieve a certain grade for all UK and international examinations.

Statistics continued

ResultsPlus
www.edexcel.com/resultsplus

- Edexcel's free online service giving instant and detailed analysis of your students' exam and mock performance
- See your students' scores for every exam question
- Understand how your students' performance compares with Edexcel national averages

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Any questions?

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Ask the Expert

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THANK YOU