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Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

BUSINESS 9609/21

Paper 2 Data Response

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MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 60

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

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This document consists of 20 printed pages.



[Turn over

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit
 is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme,
 referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer							
1(a)(i)	Define the term 'fixed cost	s' (line 2	22).		2			
		Knowle	edge	Marks				
	A correct definition			2				
	A partial, vague or unfocus	ed defini	tion	1				
	No creditable content			0				
	Award one mark for each ele does not change/stays t as output changes/varie							
	Exemplar	Rationale						
	Costs that don't vary (1) with output (1)	2	Both elements, costs don't change as output changes					
	The cost doesn't change	Only one element						
	Unchanging costs	Only one element						
	costs change with output		1					

Question	Answer								
1(a)(ii)	Explain the term 'channels of distribution' (line 3).								
	Awa	Award one mark for each point of explanation:							
		Ration	ale		Mark				
	С	Example or some other way of sho i.e. examples of intermediaries, ch		ood understanding,	1				
	В	Stages/intermediaries/different wa businesses	ys of se	lling/chain of	1				
	А	From producer to consumer/sell pr	roducts	to consumers	1				
	· AR/	A chain of stages which a product of from the producer to the consumer. Can be direct, using the internet, or warehouse, agent or retailer.			•				
	Ex	emplar	Mark	Rationale					
	pro su	ferent ways of selling (B mark) oducts to consumers (A mark) e.g. oplier to wholesaler to consumer mark)	3	Point from each categ	ory				
	pa:	chain of intermediaries (B) a good sses through until it reaches the al buyer (A) e.g. wholesalers, ailers, direct (C)	3	Point from each categ	ory				
	Chain of businesses (B) that sell 2 Only two categories of products to consumers (A)								
	Th	overed							
	Sta	or							
	Se	lling products to consumers (A)	1	Again a bit vague but A category	fits the				
	Th	e production process	0	No understanding sho	own				

Question	Answer		Marks				
1(b)(i)	Calculate the profit CE will make from production line B if it sorts packages and sells 150 000 eggs in a month.	S,	4				
	Rationale	Marks					
	Correct answer with or without correct working	4					
	Formulae or correct calculation of two from TVC or TFC or TR OR Correct calculation of TVC, TFC and TR	3					
	Formulae and correct calculation of one from TVC or TFC or TR OR Correct calculation of two from TVC, TFC or TR	2					
	Formulae or correct calculation of one from TVC or TFC or TR	1					
	No creditable content 0						
	NB Can award a mark for OFR where relevant						
	Profit = $(P \times Q) - ((VC \times Q) + FC))$ or $TR - TC$ or $TR - (TVC + TFC)$						
	$\frac{150000}{6\text{per box}} = 25000\text{boxes}$						
	25 000 × \$0.45 = \$11 250 (TVC)						
	$\frac{\$10000}{2}$ = \$5000 (TFC)						
	\$0.90 × 25 000 = \$22 500 (TR)						
	\$22 500 - (\$11 250 + \$5000) = \$6250						
	Correct answer is \$6250						
	NB Formulae can be implied through use of relevant figures						

Question	Answer								
1(b)(i)	Common incorrect answers								
	Answer	Mark	Rationale						
	22 500 – (11 250 + 10 000) = 1250 (OFR)	3	Correct calculation of TR and TVC but didn't divide FC/2 but under OFR rule mark for the final answer						
	Profit = TR-TC (1) = (0.90 × 150 000) – ((0.45 × 150 000) + 5000 (1)) = 62 500 (OFR)	3	Correct formula and calculation of TFC but didn't divide eggs/6 to arrive at boxes but under OFR rule mark for the final answer as this is the correct product of their calculation						
	22 500 – 16 250	3	Correct formula implied (1) Correct calculation of TR (1) and TC (1)						
	Profit = TR – TC (1) = (0.90 × 150 000) – ((0.45 × 150 000) + 10 000)) = 57 500 (OFR)	2	Correct formula but didn't divide FC/2 and didn't divide eggs/6 to arrive at boxes but under OFR rule mark for the final answer as this is the correct product of their calculation						
	28 500 – 25 300 = 3200 (OFR)	2	This is both production lines so 1 mark for correct (implied) formula and OFR for answer as this is the correct product of their calculation						
	Profit = TR – TC	1	Correct formula						
	TR = P × Q	1	Correct formula for TR						
	62 500	0	No working to show how arrived at this answer						
	1250	0	No working to show how arrived at this answer						

Question		An	swer		Marks		
1(b)(ii)	Explain	one problem of CE's alloca	ation of fixed costs.		2		
	Level	Knowledge a	nd Application	Marks			
	2 (APP)	Explanation of a problem of a in context	allocating fixed costs for CE	2			
	1 (K)	Identification of a problem wi	th allocating fixed costs	1			
	0	No creditable content		0			
	 Processor for End of the line Processor We diffice We and the line We and the line ARA 	for B to 32.5% for A) – paying the same fixed costs may make production line A seem unprofitable. Production line A would seem to have less processing (no sorting, bigger quantities) so should it need to pay the same as line B? We do not know how many eggs are processed by each line so it is difficult to know if the allocation is appropriate. We do not know how employees are paid, could be salaries, so line B has more employees so higher costs					
	Identifi (1 mark	cation of a problem (K)	Explanation of a problem in context (APP) (2 marks)	n			
		o lines do not have the same output so allocation unfair	May be unfair if the two lines different outputs but we don' how many eggs each line pro	t know			
	One line might have higher fixed costs than the other, e.g. salaries Employees may be paid a salary and line B has more employees so could have higher fixed costs						
	One line than the	e could have less processes e other	Line A has less processing a don't have to sort into sizes s that they have the same fixed as line B	so unfair			
	Not acc	curate	CE have not identified relevation costs for each line, just divide fixed costs between the two	ed total			

Question			Answer			Marks		
1(c)	Analyse	two ways in which CE	adds valu	e to its products.		8		
	Level	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis (4 marks)	Marks			
	2b	Shows understanding of two ways in which CE adds value to its products in context	4	Good analysis of two ways in which CE adds value to its products in context	4			
	2a	Shows understanding of one way in which CE adds value to its products in context	3	Good analysis of one way in which CE adds value to its products in context	3			
	1b	Shows knowledge of two ways of adding value	2	Limited analysis of two ways in which CE adds value to its products	2			
	1a	Shows knowledge of one way of adding value	1	Limited analysis of one way in which CE adds value to its products	1			
	0 no creditable content 0							
	 Content Packaging (boxes and trays) – a cost for the firm, but has a double benefit to consumer market – protects and advertises. Sorting – consumers obviously see value in different sized eggs and therefore CE can probably have higher prices for large eggs and therefore gain more profit. Money back guarantee – little cost for the firm but builds up trust for the brand. Branding – food product so trust in the brand will be important. Convenience – availability through retailers for the consumer market – more likely to purchase than coming to the farm. Best before date – both in consumer and producer markets this will help to avoid wastage when purchased and again builds trust in the brand. 							

Question	Answer							
1(c)	ARA							
	Example of a way (K)	Examples of application/context (APP)	Examples of possible analysis (AN + DEV)					
	Branding	CE has built a brand with a reputation for high quality eggs	customers are prepared to pay higher prices for a quality product (AN) which means that CE can charge a premium price for the eggs therefore increasing the added value resulting in higher profits (DEV)					
	Increase the price whilst keeping costs the same	The costs of production are the same for each box but CE could charge more for the larger eggs	as customers are getting more egg in the larger sizes they won't mind paying a higher price (AN). This is also a way of segmenting their market into those who will only pay a lower price compared to those who will pay a higher price therefore maximizing CE's revenue from each segment (DEV)					
	Decrease costs whilst keeping price the same	CE could use cheaper packaging for the eggs by e.g. using cheaper materials in the boxes and trays	This could damage their reputation for quality (AN) and customers may stop buying the eggs and buy those of CE's competitors instead, therefore reducing the revenue CE receives (DEV)					

Question	Answer							
1(d)	Evaluate the likely impact expansion.	on the st	akeholders of CE of the pla	nned	11			
	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)	Marks				
			Justified evaluation based on argument in context	7				
			Developed evaluation based on argument in context	6				
			An evaluative statement based on argument in context	5				
	Shows understanding of more than one stakeholder in context	4	Argument based on an impact of the planned expansion on two (or more) stakeholders of CE	4				
	Shows understanding of one stakeholder in context	3	Argument based on an impact of the planned expansion on one stakeholder of CE	3				
	Shows knowledge of more than one stakeholder	2	Limited analysis of an impact of expansion on two (or more) stakeholders	2				
	Shows knowledge of one stakeholder	1	Limited analysis of an impact of expansion on one stakeholder	1				
	more sales should outv of the retail market. • Employees – Expansio	veigh this on is likely to ay get pro	fund the investment but the recost. May depend on the mark to make the current employee moted to supervise the new p	et growth s feel				

Question		Answer							
1(d)	 Consumers – More retail eggs may make CE's products more accessible, which is good for the customers. The extra investment may be recouped with higher prices, alternatively in the long run, economies of scale may lead to lower average costs/prices Local residents – more noise, pollution – might reduce house prices. More trucks picking up eggs? Business customers – Will the allocated fixed costs increase on Production Line A, increasing costs/prices on the eggs – alternatively there could be savings from economies of scale passed on to business customers. Shareholders – Might be asked to invest more to fund the expansion or the costs of the expansion could increase costs and reduce dividends. Competitors – CE's expansion will mean that they can supply more to the market which could reduce the demand for competitors' eggs. ARA An example of how an answer could develop and how it should be annotated.								
	An exam	ple of hov	w an answer	could develop and hov	v it should be annotated.				
	Owner	Lian the owner	Needs a loan to finance the expansion	The new product line will require investment in more machinery and more employees. The employees will need to be trained. This might mean that Lian will need a bank loan, which will increase the	However, the profit from the new production line should outweigh the costs (EVAL) and allow greater distribution of the product thereby increasing market share and revenue (EVAL) so the owner will feel the greater				

Question		Answer									
1(d)	ARA										
	An example	An example of how an answer could develop and how it should be annotated.									
	к	APP	AN	DEV	EVAL						
	Customer	CE have two types of customers – the industrial market and the consumer market and are to expand to retailers	Expanding to retailers will be more convenient for the customer.	Customers can get their eggs closer to home, which will cut down on travel time and cost as they no longer have to go to the farm but still can get high quality fresh eggs.	However the eggs may increase in price (EVAL) as the retailer will add a mark-up to the cost to them so customers may still travel to the farm to get the lower price (EVAL) therefore not as great an impact on the customer (EVAL)						

Question	Answ	er			Marks	
2(a)(i)	Define the term 'overdraft' (line 21).					
	Knowledge			Marks		
	A correct definition			2		
	A partial, vague or unfocused definition			1		
	No creditable content			0		
	Content A banking facility which allows a person/business to go below zero in their account. In essence, money has been lent to the person/business. The amount borrowed is controlled by the overdraft holder – they take what they need as they need it – usually a short-term source of finance Award one mark for each element of a correct definition: Short term source of finance Often high rates of interest Flexible (can be used when needed) Allows an account to go below zero Helps solve cash-flow problems Current liability					
	Exemplar	Mark	Rationale			
	A flexible (1) short term source of finance (1)	2	two elements			
	A business can take more money out of their bank account than they have in it (1) to help with cash flow problems (1)	2	two elements			
	A person can take more money out of their bank account than they have in it Only one element					
	A flexible source of finance 1 Only one element					
	A source of finance 0 Does not distinguish an overdraft from other sources of finance					
	A loan from the bank	0	Again does not dist from a bank loan	inguish		

Question				Answer				Marks
2(a)(ii)	Explain the term 'maturity in the product life cycle' (lines 10–11).							3
	Awa	ard one marl	c for each point	of explanation:				
				Rationale			Marks	
	С		start extension	ay of showing go strategy, sales				
	В	Lack of gro	owth, slow or no	growth			1	
	Α	Sales at hi	ghest point/max	kimum sales/pro	duct life cy	cle peal	ks 1	
	has The mat Prod	slowed or s diagram be urity stage, s duct life cycl	topped. Sales n low could get al sales growth slo	when sales are nay start to declar 3 marks as it sowing, then declar maturity	ine after thi shows sales	s. s peakin	J	
	ARA	.	Answe	er		Mark	Rationale	
			eir highest (A) b	out growth starts by the decline s		3	A + B + C	
	Sales growth slows (B) and firms use extension 2 B strategies (C)					B + C		
	Stage of maximum sales (A) and then the product 2 A + enters the decline stage (C)					A + C		
	Sa	les are at th	eir highest (A) b	out stop growing	(B)	2	A + B	
	Ро	int of peak s	sales (A)			1	Α	

Question	Answer						
2(b)(i)	Refer to Table 2.1 and any other relevant information. Calculate the value of \underline{X} .						
	Rationale Marks						
	Correct answer with o	or withou	ut correct working	2			
	Formula or correct ca	lculation	n of current assets	1			
	No creditable content			0			
	Content						
	Working capital = CA – CL						
	\$18 000 = (11 000 + 20 000) - (5000 + X)						
	Or $(11 + 20) - (5 - X) = 8$						
	Answer = \$8000 (accept 8)						
	Common incorrect answers						
	Answer	Mark	Rationale				
	8000 2 Correct answer even without \$						
	31 000 1 Correct calculation of current assets						
	31	1	Correct calculation of CA without '000'				
	31 000 – X = 1800 = 13 000	1	Wrong answer but correct calculation of current assets				
	CA – CL	1	Formula				
	13 000	0	No working so not clear how arrived at the answer	nis			

Question	Answer						
2(b)(ii)	Explain two possible disadvantages to FF of decreasing working capital.						
	Level	Knowledge and	Marks				
	2b (APP + APP)	Explanation of two disadv	4				
	2a (APP)	Explanation of one disadv	rantage in context	3			
	1b (K + K)	Identification of two disad	2				
	1a (K)	Identification of one disad	vantage	1			
	0 1	No creditable content		0			
	has a limited she FF's overdraft make is never paid off FF does not have they may run out unable to pay was intensive nature. Can be used as a directors to explain the pay in the pay in the pay increase, again. ARA	FF does not have any/many liquid assets – could get to the point where they may run out of cash and have to stop operations. For example unable to pay wages/salary – especially important because of the labour intensive nature of production Can be used as a measure of efficiency – shareholders may want the directors to explain why it is falling Decreasing the ability of FF to pay debts especially as customers are unlikely to pay for the flowers in advance and trade receivables may increase, again.					
	Identification of a disadvantage	ntext					
	Unable to pay short term debts If working capital falls then there may not be enough money to pay short term debt such as suppliers of the flowers which have to be purchased in advance of a customer paying for the order						
	Unable to pay employees	Employees may be paid weekly or in cash. Less working capital could mean the company cannot pay their employees	CE's employees are commission based or selling price of the flo Lower working capita mean that the compa cannot pay the commowed to the employee	n the wers. Il could ny nissions			

Question			Answer			Marks
2(c)	Analyse one advantage and one disadvantage to FF of using job production for its flower arrangements.					
	Level	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis (4 marks)	Marks	
	2b	Shows understanding of two elements of job production in context	4	Good analysis of one disadvantage and one advantage of using job production in context	4	
	2a	Shows understanding of one element of job production in context	3	Good analysis of one disadvantage or one advantage of using job production in context	3	
	1b	Shows knowledge of two elements of job production	2	Limited analysis of one disadvantage and one advantage of using job production	2	
	1a	Shows knowledge of one element of job production	1	Limited analysis of one disadvantage or one advantage of using job production	1	
	0	No cr	0			
	Content Elements of job production: Unique Hand made Made to order/bespoke One at a time Each is finished before the next is started Often labour intensive Requires skilled labour Satisficing customer – Allows FF to charge higher prices and retain loyal customers Premium prices – FF can charge a higher price for customised flower arrangements					

Question	Answer				
2(c)	Must be advant	age and disadvantage	to FF		
	 Advantages USP- already in a competitive market so specialist flower arrangements could give FF a USP Increased brand reputation- FF producing specialist flower arrangements which are ready in 24 hours which will be attractive to customers Disadvantages Lower productivity - increased costs of production/slower speed of production compared to batch production Labour intensive - higher labour costs Cost - Already got decreasing working capital, no cash and an overdraft - job production is more expensive than batch Difficult future recruitment - higher level of skills needed because of the specialist nature of job production Training - job production is highly skilled and any new employees would require specialist training, increasing costs NB annotate advantages on the LHS and disadvantages on the RHS 				
	Example of an element (K)	Examples of application/context (APP)	Examples of possible analysis (AN + DEV)		
	Made to customer order	Flowers are arranged according to customer internet order	Customer satisfaction (AN) if customers are satisfied with the product they will repeat order on other occasions which will increase customer loyalty, increase FF's revenue and lead to higher profit (DEV)		
	Disadvantage				
	Example of an element (K)	Examples of application/context (APP)	Examples of possible analysis (AN + DEV)		
	Expensive	Job production means that each worker does a flower arrangement each time so the process is labour intensive	leading to higher labour costs (AN). This will reduce FF's profits or could mean that they have to charge a high price and could reduce FF's competitiveness and market share (DEV)		

Question	Answer						
2(d)	Recommend non-financial motivators which FF could put in place to motivate the employees who make the low-price flower arrangements. Justify your recommendation.						
	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)	Marks			
			Justified recommendation(s) based on argument in context	7			
			Developed recommendation(s) based on argument in context	6			
			An evaluative recommendation/ statement based on argument in context	5			
	Shows understanding of two non-financial motivators in context	4	Argument based on the use of two (or more) non-financial motivators in context	4			
	Shows understanding of one non-financial motivator in context	3	Argument based on the use of one non-financial motivator in context	3			
	Shows knowledge of two non-financial motivators	2	Limited analysis of the use of two (or more) non-financial motivators	2			
	Shows knowledge of one non-financial motivator	1	Limited analysis of the use of one non-financial motivator	2			
	 be successful and may by the new production production production production production. Induction – Not about not be motivated by induction. Opportunities for promosupervision opportunities. Status – Will the worker superior to the others. production workers and. Job re-design – the worker. 	de-motivate process. ew workers on. etion – this es on the process who rem This could demotivate kers could	a lower skilled job, training is e if the skilled workers feel pass, so the current workforce is may be a motivator is there a roduct production line ain on the job production line have two effects – to motivate the batch production worke be involved in re-designing the civate them and empower the	unlikely to are more e fee the job ers he new			

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Question			Aı	nswer		Marks
2(d)	 Team working – The job production process was working alone, but there may be motivation from working as a group on batch production. Link to Herzberg, Maslow etc. Empowerment – workers may be given some control over their working practices. Participation – Could workers be given some input into the decision making at the firm? Fringe benefits/perks – Increased holidays, perks etc. may make up for reduced commission form the lower price flowers. Team away days – Allows team bonding which could help improve job satisfaction Job enrichment/job enlargement/job rotation – Increase skills/empowerment/interest ARA An example of how an answer could develop and how it should be annotated.					
	К	APP	AN	DEV	EVAL	
	Team away day	The low-price flower arrangements will be produce using batch production. This requires team work	So an away day could help with team bonding	This will increase loyalty to other members of the team. Employees will not want to let the team down so will work harder and less likely to take time off e.g. in sick days. Productivity will be higher and	Job rotation is more effective than a team away day (EVAL) because the employee can have better skills through higher training (EVAL) and	

ARA

An example of how an answer could develop and how it should be annotated.

cost, therefore

higher profit.

lower leading to

won't disrupt

the production

or require time away from the job (EVAL)

K	APP	AN	DEV	EVAL
Job rotation	There are 10 flower arrangements to be made so employees could rotate between each arrangement	Improving their skills	Higher level of skills will make employees feel better trained. If a worker is absent from one arrangement can easily be covered by other employees if demand is greater for that particular arrangement so less disruption to the production process.	