

Progression - Business

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i. Studying “Business”

Hopefully you have chosen Business as you have an interest in a subject which affects your everyday lives. With that in mind, let's begin...

Business is all around you every day, it isn't hard to see how it has affected you and will affect your future. Take Brexit for example, do you view that as a positive or a negative?

So, Business is a subject that continues to change, it is a forward looking subject. It is a subject that requires writing in context and a broad appreciation of the real world in which you live. You cannot rely only on your textbook. To be successful you will need to show:

- 1. A willingness to read and research real businesses and the business environment*
- 2. A willingness to develop your analytical writing skills, you will need to write in detail, developing “logical chains of argument”, using connectives in your answers*
- 3. An ability to demonstrate “judgment” from time to time, providing an opinion on a variety of issues.*
- 4. That you have sound numeracy skills and be willing to perform a variety of calculations and develop confidence in interpreting and discussing your results.*

ii) Expectations

To perform well, it is also important that you adopt good learning behaviours, and these will include:

- Using your time outside class well, completing all set work, and ensuring a minimum commitment of 4.75 hours per week to be spent on homework / independent study
- Maintain at least 95% attendance throughout the two year programme, arriving to lessons on-time
- Arrive to lessons fully equipped with your lesson workbook in a folder, your own A4 lined paper, at least 2 pens, a pencil, a ruler and a calculator
- When directed to do so, make use of Microsoft Teams to engage in study resources or homework activities that are to be set electronically.

iii) Task 1 – to be completed by September

There will be some key terms you should know from your GCSE course if you studied the subject at school, however, if you are new to Business or have enjoyed a busy summer, these are the terms you should be familiar with.

Spend some time finding them out and create a glossary to help you prepare. Use www.tutor2u.com or the exam board resources referred to at the end to help.

Easy Key Term	Challenging Terms
Revenue (define, formula)	Inflation
Profit (define, formula)	Interest rates
Variable costs (define, formula)	Profit margin
Contribution per unit (formula)	Qualitative & quantitative data
Break even (define, formula)	Working capital
LTD	Labour turnover (define, formula)
PLC	Capacity utilisation (define, formula)
Unlimited liability	Outsourcing
Limited liability	Corporate Social Responsibility
Exchange rate	Trade Bloc

That should have given you plenty to think about. These terms will be integral in your understanding of business.

iv) Task 2 – Following Real Businesses

It is impossible to know what companies will be examined in your assessments. However, some of the big multinationals will provide you with enough evidence to cover all the aspects of business in your course. Become familiar with the companies over the page, they will help you contextualise your answers.

Choose 2 of the businesses below and prepare a short overview for your sixth form teacher which addresses:

- The ownership type;
- The growth strategies employed by the business over recent years ie have they entered new markets? Have they developed new products? Have they bought or merged with any other businesses? Or have they actually “rationalised” ie shrank in size, withdrawing from particular markets, or closing branches or factories?
- How have they been affected by at least two of the following issues:
 - Ethics
 - Legal issues
 - Economic issues
 - The global political climate, including tariffs and trade, war, and changes of government;
 - Developments in Technology
 - Environmental issues.

 Apple	NETFLIX	
 TESLA		BRITISH AIRWAYS 
		amazon 

News websites for Business

1. The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/business>
2. The Independent: <https://www.independent.co.uk>
3. The FT: <https://www.ft.com>
4. Reuters: <https://www.reuters.com/>
5. BBC: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>

v) Exam Board Resources

It is a good idea to familiarise yourself with the exam board's website, the A-level specification, learning resources and past papers.

You will find the specification and sample assessments here:

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/business-asa-level/#tab_keydocuments

You will find learning resources here:

https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceByArgs.aspx?subId=4&lvlId=1&_gl=1*10p1p3l*_ga*NzQ0MTI0ODU3LjE3NDQ3NDIzNzM.*_ga_79NTFZ2DJM*_czE3NDY2MjUyMDckbzQyJGcwJHQxNzQ2NjI1Mjc5JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..

You will find the past papers here:

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/business-asa-level/#tab_pastpapers

Good luck! And.....don't forget to have a well-deserved break, top up on lever-arch folders and dividers, ensure you have a calculator, a ruler, flash cards, pens, and A4 lined paper ready to start your course in September.