

Cambridge International AS & A Level

BUSINESS
Paper 3 Case Study
MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 100

Published

Students did not sit exam papers in the June 2020 series due to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

This mark scheme is published to support teachers and students and should be read together with the question paper. It shows the requirements of the exam. The answer column of the mark scheme shows the proposed basis on which Examiners would award marks for this exam. Where appropriate, this column also provides the most likely acceptable alternative responses expected from students. Examiners usually review the mark scheme after they have seen student responses and update the mark scheme if appropriate. In the June series, Examiners were unable to consider the acceptability of alternative responses, as there were no student responses to consider.

Mark schemes should usually be read together with the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers. However, because students did not sit exam papers, there is no Principal Examiner Report for Teachers for the June 2020 series.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the June 2020 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™ and Cambridge International A & AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

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.

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Paper 3 General Marking Guidance

- Marking should be positive: marks should not be subtracted for errors or inaccuracies.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work must be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.
- In numerical answers units are required.
- Errors that are carried forward (e.g. when an incorrect numerical answer to one part of a question is used as the starting point for a calculation in the next part of the question) should not be compounded use the 'own figure rule'.
- Poor spelling, handwriting or grammar should not be penalised as long as the answer makes sense.
- The main RM Assessor annotations to be used are K (Knowledge), APP (Application), AN (Analysis), EVAL (Evaluation). For each of these four annotations, the number of marks awarded for that assessment objective must match the number of times that annotation is on the answer.
- Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP.
- No knowledge demonstrated, then no marks.
- Blank pages on a script should be annotated as SEEN.
- A blank space, dash, question mark constitutes a 'no response'.
- In Section B, candidates answer either Question 6 or Question 7. The Section B question that the candidate does not answer must be entered as 'no response'.
- Blank pages, or pages that contain crossed out material, must be annotated using 'seen'.
- Accept Any Reasonable Answer when awarding marks.

This mark scheme includes a summary of appropriate content for answering each question. It should be emphasised, however, that this material is for illustrative purposes and is not intended to provide a definitive guide to acceptable answers. It is quite possible that among the scripts there will be some candidate answers that are not covered directly by the content of this mark scheme. In such cases, professional judgement should be exercised in assessing the merits of the answer and the senior examiners should be consulted if further guidance is required.

Application marks are not awarded for repeating material from the case study. Application is by answering in the context of the case or by using the information in the case to help answer the question.

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Question			Answer		Marks
1		the likely impact on H corporate social resp	IBG's costs and rever consibility (CSR).	nues of increasing its	10
	Level	Knowledge 3 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 5 marks	
	2	3 marks Knowledge of CSR and impact on costs and revenues	2 marks Points made are applied to HBG	4–5 marks Good use of theory to explain impact on costs and/or revenue	
	1	1–2 marks Knowledge of CSR and impact on cost or revenue	1 mark Some application to HBG	1–3 marks Some use of theory to explain impact on costs and/or revenues	
	0		No creditable content		
	Applicati Refe too Refe Refe Incre New	on customers, employed ion rence to disabled access rence to minimum wags rence to renewable energiasing social awareness	ees, communities and the ss – for families with bate eergy s among the public inked to environmental	abies / young children	
	 Provestincre Payin labou labou Investination Payin labou Payin labou Payin labou Payin labou Payin labou Payin labou 	iding better disabled / y nsive due to the historicase visitor numbers an ng higher wages in adv ur costs and reduce pro ur turnover and motivate sting in renewable ener HBG money by reducing for independent soci	ance of legal requirement ofitability. However, this e employees to work ha gy sources could be ex ng fixed costs	all properties could be s. However, this could ent would increase could help reduce the arder spensive but in long term the but provides publicity	

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Refer to Table 2. Calculate the:	
2(a)(i)	contribution of the café Contribution = revenue – direct costs (1)	3
	Direct costs = 50 000 + 120 000 = 170 000 (1) = 300 000 - 170 000 = \$130 000 (3)	
2(a)(ii)	profit made by the gift shop.	3
	Profit = revenue – total cost (1)	
	TC = 80 000 + 40 000 + 30 000 + 10 000 = \$160 000 (1)	
	Profit = 200 000 – 160 000 = \$40 000 (3)	

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Question			Answe	r		Marks
2(b)	Refer to your answers for 2(a) and any other information. Recommend whether HBG should close Oldbury Castle Café. Justify your recommendation.					
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 4 marks	Evaluation 4 marks	
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points made	2 marks Application of two or more points to HBG	3–4 marks Good use of theory to answer question	3–4 marks Good judgement shown	
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to HBG	1–2 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–2 marks Some judgment shown	
	0		No credita	ble content		
	 Undo Ove Undo Applica Cald Full Reference Reference 	lerstanding of fixe lerstanding of con rall profit lerstanding of full tion culation of contrib- costing gives a lo erence to specific keting erence to allocation	tribution concept costing ution: 300 000 – 1 ess of \$10 000 fixed cost at Old	- represents an ir 40 000 = \$160 00 oury Castle / HBG	ncrease in HBG's 00 6 e.g. national	
	MakSellPos	s for closure king a loss on full ing gifts is more p sible saving in wa ters and chefs	rofitable	be more labour ir	ntensive – need for	
	 Only judg A po will Imp Dan Ave Cha 	s against closure y operating since gement? ositive contribution continue to be included act on other empl nage to brand if cludes rage spend per vi ange to menu to include	n is being made to curred even if the oyee morale if en osures announce sitor of \$2.86 crease sales	o paying fixed cos café is closed aployees made re		

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	 Analysis Loss of positive contribution may mean that in the short term HBG's overall profits will be reduced as fixed costs continue to be paid Impact on visitor numbers to Oldbury if café is closed. Could lead to the property being less appealing and therefore a reduction in numbers and revenue If the café were more responsive to customer feedback this could lead to an increase in sales at relatively low cost e.g. change to menu or reducing prices 	
	 Evaluation Are sales likely to pick up in the future? Price elasticity of demand significant if prices cut Would sales at gift shop be able to compensate for the loss of café revenue? Supported identification of most important factor in the decision Overall argument for or against closure 	

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Question			Answe	r		Marks	
3	Discuss whether introducing a decentralised organisational structure will benefit HBG.						
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 6 marks	Evaluation 6 marks		
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to HBG	4–6 marks Good use of theory to answer question	4–6 marks Good judgment shown		
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to HBG	1–3 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–3 marks Some judgment shown		
	0	0 No creditable content					
	an com com Def Spa Flat May Mar	•	o spans of control nels lised organisatior to be wide oureaucracies hav nt of junior manag	/ levels of hierar nal structure ve been thinned gers	·		
	LinkDeloEndRef	tion dundancy cost of received between structure gate greater authorized two-way of the courage two-way of the courage to actions.	re and falling sale nority to managers communication win consultation	s/membership s of buildings th employees	anagement		
	A m area	cks of decentralisa	ructure with a fixent lead to rapid de		d procedures in all ing possible as		

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Question	Answer	Marks
3	 Less consistent policies throughout the organisation. This could lead to conflicts and create confusion in the minds of consumers about the HBG brand Senior managers at headquarters will be experienced decision-makers They might make better decisions regarding HBG Increased workload on remaining employees could lead to demotivation and increase in labour turnover Cost of training for managers to enable them to deal with increased responsibility Benefits of decentralisation	
	 A more motivated workforce contributing to greater productivity within the firm Decision making in response to changes in local conditions may be quicker 	
	 Evaluation Did consultation ensure that employees supported the changes? Redundancies associated with removing layers of management conflicts with new emphasis on CSR Implementation depends on effective communication with employees to avoid industrial relations problems. 	

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Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	Refer to Table 3 and Appendix 1:	
4(a)(i)	Complete nodes 3 and 4 on the network analysis below (reproduced from the Insert). H The second contact of the Insert) Node 3: EST = 5 (1 mark) LFT = 5 (1 mark)	4
	Node 4: EST = 6 (1 mark) LFT = 18 (1 mark)	
4(a)(ii)	Identify the critical path. Write your answer below.	1
	ACDEG (1 mark)	
4(a)(iii)	Calculate the minimum time to complete the project to open Alderly Gardens. Write your answer below.	1
	20 weeks (1 mark)	
4(a)(iv)	Calculate the total float of Activity J.	2
	Total float = LFT – duration – EST (1 mark)	
	Or LST – EST (1 mark)	
	17 – 2 – 9 = 6 weeks (2 marks)	

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Question			Answe	r		Marks
4(b)	Evaluate the usefulness of network analysis to HBG when making operational decisions.					
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 3–4 marks	Evaluation 3–4 marks	
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to HBG	3–4 marks Good use of theory to answer question	3–4 marks Good judgment shown	
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to HBG	1–2 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–2 marks Some judgment shown	
	0		No credita	ble content		
	resource all tasks identificate Benefits Plai mor Sets Cor Ider Limitatio	on of network analyses are used efficients in a project, putstation of the critical of network analyses are used when respect to work to estruction of network intifies critical activities.	ently. Also known them in the correl path - fastest rousis ources are needed wards ork diagram forces ities for managen orted by other tech	as critical path arct sequence and the to completion. d and their use completion and their use completed and their use comple	an save time and an project carefully	
	RefRef	tion erence to activitie erence to total floa erence to three sp dline	at / free float of in		ore the 23 week	

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Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)	Planning of when resources are needed and their use can save time and money thus increasing profit Fixtures and fittings can be ordered to arrive just in time for their installation in week 18 so cash outflows can be delayed. Targets set will help motivate staff and increase efficiency Evaluation	
	 Network presented is relatively simplistic – more detail needed Doesn't guarantee that project will be completed on time HBG has experience of planning building work so should be relatively accurate 	

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Question			Answe	r		Marks
5	Recommend the changes that HBG should make to its marketing strategy to achieve its objectives of increasing membership and visitor numbers. Justify your recommendation.					
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 6 marks	Evaluation 6 marks	
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to HBG	4–6 marks Good use of theory to answer question	4–6 marks Good judgment shown	
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to HBG	1–3 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–3 marks Some judgment shown	
	0		No credita	ble content		
	bud The maj Refo Applica How mod Den 15% Prod Nee inte Giffe Mar	keting strategy is get and marketing objective set will or determinant of erence to situation tion v product could be dernised, improvenand estimated to increase in quarmotions to attracted for high quality rnational visitors	g mix be the benchmar the marketing mix hal analysis / mar e changed e.g. me d play areas for c be price-elastic. htity demanded grandparents with website allowing uld be used e.g. A	k of success/failuct and the budget ket research as penus at the cafes hildren 10% reduction in children booking – link to apps developed whent to CSR	level art of marketing could be price could lead to families and vith information on	
	demMorUse	lucing price may lenanted therefore i	increasing revenu d will result in incr o increase aware	e reased revenues ness and appeal		

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Question	Answer	Marks
5	 Evaluation Justification of most important element of marketing mix Changes depend on sufficient budget being made available Most important group to target Danger of changes alienating older customers 	

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Question	Answer	Marks
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Questions 6 and 7 use this marking grid:

Level	Knowledge 3 marks	Application 3 marks	Analysis 4 marks	Evaluation 10 marks		
3				7–10 marks Good judgment shown throughout with well supported conclusion/ recommendation, focused on HBG		
2	3 marks Good under- standing shown	3 marks Good application to HBG	3–4 marks Good use of reasoned argument or use of theory to explain points made to explain points made	4–6 marks Some judgment shown in the main body of the answer and an attempt to support conclusion/recommendation, focused on HBG <i>OR</i> effective and well supported conclusion/recommendation, focused on HBG		
1	1–2 marks Some under- standing shown	1–2 marks Some application to HBG	1–3 marks Limited use of reasoned argument or use of theory to support points made	1–3 marks Limited attempt to show judgment either within the answer OR a weakly supported conclusion/recommendation with some focus on HBG		
0	No creditable content					

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Question	Answer	Marks
6	Evaluate whether SWOT analysis is sufficient to make sure that HBG's future strategies are the most appropriate ones for the organisation.	
	 Knowledge Explanation of strategic analysis (SA) and its techniques – SWOT, PEST, Boston Matrix, Porters 5 Forces, core competencies. Effective SA may result in clearer and more relevant business objectives, better strategic decisions and less risk as HBG will be better prepared for the future Place of strategic techniques in strategic management 	
	 Application Exploration of range of factors contained in Table 1 in particular: Linking limited disabled access to disability consideration under consideration Rising GDP per capita Rising international tourism Falling cost of renewable energy 	
	 Analysis The time, money and effort needed to conduct SA and impact on HBG How SA will improve business planning and thus reduce risk e.g. HBG will be able to work on marketing strategy to attract new members. May need to increase marketing budget to be successful Understanding the leisure market through appropriate SWOT analysis will inform HBG's decisions and improve effectiveness of strategy choice 	
	 Evaluation Clear conclusion as to the importance of SWOT analysis and/or techniques including: Critical comments on SWOT and other techniques Importance of understanding where the business is now in order to generate ideas and/or support for overseas expansion Comments that SWOT analysis on its own is not enough to fully support a decision Weighing up importance of other stages and techniques of SA within strategic management, especially objectives and choice of techniques in relation to SA 	

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Question	Answer	Marks	
7	Evaluate the importance to HBG of developing a change culture in order to implement Eusebio's four strategic changes (lines 46 to 49).		
	 Knowledge Culture means the values and beliefs of an organisation – especially senior management. Culture of change means encouraging and facilitating strategic change in an organisation Implementation means putting into effect strategic change These changes will affect employees – opportunities but also potential threats Change can be promoted through: Clear mission statement and sense of direction Employee involvement Team working / project champions 		
	 Application Eusebio wishes to make significant changes to the operation and structure of HBG Employees consulted about organisational change Reference to strategies that HBG is implementing e.g. CSR 		
	 Analysis Proposed changes to culture and operations require employees to be flexible and adaptable if they are to be successful. Opposition from employees will undermine the changes A strong culture can facilitate successful strategy implementation. Where employees share common values that can energise people to promote successful strategy implementation Need for trust to be established so that change is not feared 		
	Evaluation Difficulty of developing a change culture – HBG is a social enterprise and bureaucratic, culture may have been unchanged for last 50 years		

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