

Business and Economics Department

AS and A Level Business

Exam Board: AQA

AS Level

- 1. What is business?
- 2. Managers, leadership and decision making
- **3.** Decision making to improve marketing performance
- 4. Decision making to improve operational performance
- 5. Decision making to improve financial performance
- 6. Decision making to improve human resource performance

A Level

- 1. What is business?
- 2. Managers, leadership and decision making
- **3.** Decision making to improve marketing performance
- 4. Decision making to improve operational performance
- 5. Decision making to improve financial performance
- 6. Decision making to improve human resource performance
- **7.** Analysing the strategic position of a business
- 8. Choosing strategic direction
- 9. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- 10. Managing strategic change

AS Level

1. What is business?

- a. Understanding the nature and purpose of business
- b. Understanding different business forms
- c. Understanding that businesses operate within an external environment

2. Managers, leadership and decision making

- a. Understanding management, leadership and decision making
- b. Understanding management decision making
- c. Understanding the role and importance of stakeholders

3. Decision making to improve marketing performance

- a. Setting marketing objectives
- b. Understanding markets and customers
- c. Making marketing decisions: segmentation, targeting, positioning
- d. Making marketing decisions: using the marketing mix

4. Decision making to improve operational performance

- a. Setting operational objectives
- b. Analysing operational performance
- c. Making operational decisions to improve performance: increasing efficiency and productivity
- d. Making operational decisions to improve performance: improving quality
- e. Making operational decisions to improve performance: Managing inventory and supply chains

5. Decision making to improve financial performance

- a. Setting financial objectives
- b. Analysing financial performance
- c. Making financial decisions: sources of finance
- d. Making financial decisions: improving cash flow and profits

6. Decision making to improve human resource performance

- a. Setting human resource objectives
- b. Analysing human resource performance
- c. Making human resource decisions: improving organisational design and managing the human resource flow
- d. Making human resource decisions: improving motivation and engagement
- e. Making human resource decisions: improving employer-employee relations

A Level

(1 to 6 above plus the content below)

7. Analysing the strategic position of a business

- a. Mission, corporate objectives and strategy
- b. Analysing the existing internal position of a business to assess strengths and weaknesses: financial ration analysis
- c. Analysing the existing internal position of a business to assess strengths and weaknesses: overall position
- d. Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: political and legal change
- e. Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: economic change
- f. Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: social and technological
- g. Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: the competitive environment
- h. Analysing strategic options investment appraisal

8. Choosing strategic direction

- a. Strategic direction: choosing which markets to compete in and what products to offer
- b. Strategic positioning: choosing how to compete

9. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies

- a. Assessing a change in scale
- b. Assessing innovation
- c. Assessing internationalisation
- d. Assessing a greater use of digital technology

10. Managing strategic change

- a. Managing change
- b. Managing organisational culture
- c. Managing strategic implementation
- d. Problems with strategy and why strategies fail

Assessment

AS Level

Paper 1: Business 1

What's assessed

1 to 6 above

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks in total
- 50% of AS

Questions

Three compulsory sections:

- Section A has 10 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 10 marks
- Section B has short answer questions worth approximately 20 marks
- Section C has two data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 25 marks.

Paper 2: Business 2

What's assessed

1 to 6 above

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks in total
- 50% of AS

Questions

One compulsory case study consisting of approximately seven questions.

A Level

Paper 1: Business 1

What's assessed

1 to 10 above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Questions

Three compulsory sections:

- Section A has 15 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 15 marks.
- Section B has short answer questions worth
 35 marks.
- Sections C and D have two essay questions (Choice of one from two and one from two) worth 25 marks each.

Paper 2: Business 2

What's assessed

1 to 10 above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Questions

Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four part questions.

Paper 3: Business 3

What's assessed

1 to 10 above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Questions

One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions.



Business and Economics Department

AS and A Level Economics

Exam Board: AQA

AS Level

The operation of markets and market failure

- 1. Economic methodology and the economic problem
- 2. Price determination in a competitive market
- 3. Production, costs and revenue
- 4. Competitive and concentrated markets
- **5.** The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

The national economy in a global context

- 6. The measurement of macroeconomic performance
- How the macroeconomy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and related concepts
- 8. Economic performance
- 9. Macroeconomic policy

A Level

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

- 1. Economic methodology and the economic problem
- 2. Individual economic decision making
- 3. Price determination in a competitive market
- **4.** Production, costs and revenue
- 5. Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
- **6.** The labour market
- 7. The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality
- **8.** The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

The national and international economy

- **9.** The measure of macroeconomic performance
- **10.**How the macroeconomy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and related concepts
- 11. Economic performance
- 12. Financial markets and monetary policy
- **13.**Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
- **14.**The international economy

Assessment

AS Level

Paper 1: The operation of markets and market failure

What's assessed

1 to 5 above for AS Level

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 70 marks in total
- 50% of AS

Questions

- Section A has 20 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 20 marks
- Section B has data response questions requiring written answer, choice of one from two contexts worth 50 marks.

+ Paper 2: The national economy in a global context

What's assessed

6 to 9 above for AS Level

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 70 marks in total
- 50% of AS

Questions

- Section A has 20 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 20 marks
- Section B has data response questions requiring written answer, choice of one from two contexts worth 50 marks.

A Level

Paper 1: Markets and Market Failure

What's assessed

1 to 8 above for A Level

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Questions

- Section A has data response questions requiring written answers, choice of one from two contexts worth 40 marks
- Section B has essay questions requiring written answers, choice of one from three worth 40 marks.

Paper 2: National and International Economy

What's assessed

9 to 14 above for A Level

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Ouestions

- Section A has data response questions requiring written answers, choice of one from two contexts worth 40 marks
- Section B has essay questions requiring written answers, choice of one from three worth 40 marks.

+ Paper 3: Economic Principles and Issues

What's assessed

1 to 14 above for A Level

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

Questions

- Section A has multiple choice questions worth 30 marks.
- Section B has case study questions requiring written answers, worth 50 marks