
BUSINESS

9609/23

Paper 2 (Data Response)

October/November 2016

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

Published

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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Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2016 series for most Cambridge IGCSE[®], Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.



Page 2	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge International AS/A Level – October/November 2016	9609	23

Question		Mark																							
1 (a) (i)	<p>Define the term 'sole trader' (line 1).</p> <table><tr><th>Knowledge</th><th>Marks</th></tr><tr><td>A correct definition</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>A partial, vague or unfocused definition</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>No creditable content</td><td>0</td></tr></table> <p><i>Must be distinct from other ownership types</i></p> <p>Content A business in which one person provides the finance and in return has the full control of the business and keeps all the profits. A sole trader has all of the risk/unlimited liability. A sole trader pays income tax.</p> <table><tr><th>Exemplar</th><th>Mark</th><th>Rationale</th></tr><tr><td>One owner who has unlimited liability</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>One owner who pays income tax on profits</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>A single owner who provides all the finance</td><td>1</td><td>Could be a Ltd</td></tr><tr><td>One owner</td><td>1</td><td>Could be Ltd</td></tr></table>	Knowledge	Marks	A correct definition	2	A partial, vague or unfocused definition	1	No creditable content	0	Exemplar	Mark	Rationale	One owner who has unlimited liability	2		One owner who pays income tax on profits	2		A single owner who provides all the finance	1	Could be a Ltd	One owner	1	Could be Ltd	2
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Question		Mark								
(ii)	<p>Briefly explain the term 'methods of selection' (line 4).</p> <p>Award one mark for each point of explanation:</p> <table><tr><td>Example or some other way of showing good understanding, e.g. application forms, CVs etc...</td><td>1 mark</td></tr><tr><td>Explanation of process/practices/ways etc...</td><td>1 mark</td></tr><tr><td>Understanding that these are ways of choosing, distinguishing between, hiring, suitability of potential employees etc....</td><td>1 mark</td></tr></table> <p>Content Ways in which a business can choose the right employee for a job. Application forms and CVs. Online screening and shortlisting. Interviews. Psychometric testing. Ability and aptitude tests. Personality profiling. Presentations. Group exercises.</p> <p><i>Allow job description and person specification</i></p>	Example or some other way of showing good understanding, e.g. application forms, CVs etc...	1 mark	Explanation of process/practices/ways etc...	1 mark	Understanding that these are ways of choosing, distinguishing between, hiring, suitability of potential employees etc....	1 mark	3		
Example or some other way of showing good understanding, e.g. application forms, CVs etc...	1 mark									
Explanation of process/practices/ways etc...	1 mark									
Understanding that these are ways of choosing, distinguishing between, hiring, suitability of potential employees etc....	1 mark									
(b) (i)	<p>Refer to Fig. 1 and other information on lines 10–11. Calculate the forecast revenue for Year 6.</p> <table><tr><th>Mark</th><th>Rationale</th></tr><tr><td>2 marks</td><td>Correct answer with or without correct working (ignore \$ sign)</td></tr><tr><td>1 mark</td><td>Correct formula* OR correctly calculated percentage fall</td></tr><tr><td>0 marks</td><td>No creditable content</td></tr></table> <p><i>*Formula can be implied from use of figures</i></p> <p>Sales revenue in Year 5 = \$25 000 Year 6 predicted fall of 20% 20% of \$25 000 = \$5000 (1) \$25 000 – \$5000 = \$20 000 (1) OFR</p> <p>Therefore answer = \$20 000 (2)</p>	Mark	Rationale	2 marks	Correct answer with or without correct working (ignore \$ sign)	1 mark	Correct formula* OR correctly calculated percentage fall	0 marks	No creditable content	2
Mark	Rationale									
2 marks	Correct answer with or without correct working (ignore \$ sign)									
1 mark	Correct formula* OR correctly calculated percentage fall									
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Page 4	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
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Question		Mark																		
(ii)	<p>Explain two ways Amaya might increase the forecast revenue.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th><th>Knowledge and Application</th><th>Marks</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2b (APP +APP)</td><td>Explanation of two ways in context</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>2a (APP)</td><td>Explanation of a way in context</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>2 (KK)</td><td>Identification of two ways</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>1 (K)</td><td>Identification of a way</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>0</td><td>No creditable content</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>NB use of the answer to Q1(b)(i) is not required for context, but is an obvious way to contextualise an answer. Correct use of an incorrect answer to 1(b)(i) should be fully rewarded (own figure rule –OFR)</i></p> <p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop new subjects to offer so that she can target a larger market • Offer individual tuition to a larger market, perhaps beyond her home town • Employ more tutors to allow her to offer more individual tuition in the subjects that she already offers • Reduce the price (assuming it is price elastic) • Increase the price (assuming it is price inelastic) • Promote ES, local newspaper, recommendations, posters etc. • Increase the distribution outlets, i.e. sell through local schools/colleges 	Level	Knowledge and Application	Marks	2b (APP +APP)	Explanation of two ways in context	4	2a (APP)	Explanation of a way in context	3	2 (KK)	Identification of two ways	2	1 (K)	Identification of a way	1	0	No creditable content	0	3
Level	Knowledge and Application	Marks																		
2b (APP +APP)	Explanation of two ways in context	4																		
2a (APP)	Explanation of a way in context	3																		
2 (KK)	Identification of two ways	2																		
1 (K)	Identification of a way	1																		
0	No creditable content	0																		

Page 5	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
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Question						Mark
(c)	Analyse one advantage and one disadvantage to Amaya of using web-based sources of market research.					8
	Level	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis (4 marks)	Marks	
	2	Understanding of one web-based source of market research	3–4	Good analysis of an advantage AND a disadvantage of web-based market research in context	4	
				Good analysis of an advantage OR a disadvantage of web-based market research in context	3	
	1	Shows knowledge of market research	1–2	Limited analysis of an advantage AND a disadvantage of market research	2	
				Limited analysis of an advantage OR a disadvantage of market research	1	
	0	No creditable content				
Content						
Advantages						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Web-based market research is likely to be quicker than other forms of research which is important because ES needs a speedy response to the falling revenue• Web-based market research is likely to be cheaper (or free) than other forms of research which is important because ES is a small business• Web-based market research may be more up-to date than other forms of secondary market research, particularly important because this is a technologically changing marketplace• Web-based may be more appropriate because it is a web-based product that ES is considering						
Disadvantages						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Web-based market research may not have the validity of other forms of market research• Unlike primary (or paid for) market research, web-based may not be specific to what ES needs to know• Is this information sufficient to base such an important business decision upon, should Amaya back it up with other secondary, or some primary research?						

Page 6	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
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Question					Mark
(d)	Recommend whether Amaya should develop a new range of internet courses. Justify your view.				11
	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)	Marks	
			A justified recommendation based on a balanced argument	7	
			A recommendation based on a balanced argument	6	
			A balanced argument (two-sided) that evaluates the development of a new range of internet courses	5	
	Shows understanding of the proposal in the context of the business	3–4	Argument (one-sided) based on the development of a new range of internet courses	3–4	
	Shows understanding of factors affecting business success	1–2	Limited analysis of two or more factors	2	
			Limited analysis of one factor	1	
	No creditable content				
	Content				
	Arguments that Amaya should				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Online market has less competitors than individual tutoring and therefore ES may find it easier to launch and may be able to dominate the marketProfit margin for online tutoring courses is 20% higher than individual tutoring services75% of households have internet access which suggests that there may be a market for online tutoring courses (as does the one competitor in the market already)The chance to develop ES beyond Amayas home townA regular monthly income with few ongoing costs after development of the coursesUse of the online courses may lead to students choosing to purchase individual tutoring as well				
	Arguments that Amaya should not				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amaya is likely to face more competition than just the businesses in her home town. There may be national and international competitors.The website may represent a large start-up cost, as will the development of the internet courses. Does Amaya have the money, especially with falling revenues?Will Amaya have the skills to maintain the website, or will she need to recruit a new employee?How secure will the internet courses be – could they easily be hacked/copied/downloaded for free?				

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2 (a) (i)	<p>Define the term 'capital intensive' (line 3).</p> <table><tr><th>Knowledge</th><th>Marks</th></tr><tr><td>A correct definition</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>A partial, vague or unfocused definition</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>No creditable content</td><td>0</td></tr></table> <p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using machinery/assets etc.• Difference between capital and labour	Knowledge	Marks	A correct definition	2	A partial, vague or unfocused definition	1	No creditable content	0	2
Knowledge	Marks									
A correct definition	2									
A partial, vague or unfocused definition	1									
No creditable content	0									
(ii)	<p>Briefly explain the term 'flow production' (line 3).</p> <p>Award one mark for each point of explanation:</p> <table><tr><td>Example or some other way of showing good understanding, i.e.</td><td>1 mark</td></tr><tr><td>Understanding of 'production'</td><td>1 mark</td></tr><tr><td>Understanding of 'flow', i.e. continuous, in a line etc.</td><td>1 mark</td></tr></table> <p><i>Note: a joint venture is not a merger</i></p> <p>Content</p> <p>making items in a continually moving process, for example on a production line. Jobs are likely to be broken down into small activities and may include a large amount of automation.</p>	Example or some other way of showing good understanding, i.e.	1 mark	Understanding of 'production'	1 mark	Understanding of 'flow', i.e. continuous, in a line etc.	1 mark	3		
Example or some other way of showing good understanding, i.e.	1 mark									
Understanding of 'production'	1 mark									
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Page 8	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
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Question		Mark										
(b) (i)	Refer to Table 2. Calculate the value of X.	3										
	<table><tr><th>Mark</th><th>Rationale</th></tr><tr><td>3 marks</td><td>Correct answer with or without working (no % sign required)</td></tr><tr><td>2 marks</td><td>Correct formula* AND correct calculation of CA-inventory</td></tr><tr><td>1 mark</td><td>Correct formula OR correct calculation of CA-inventory</td></tr><tr><td>0 marks</td><td>No creditable content</td></tr></table>		Mark	Rationale	3 marks	Correct answer with or without working (no % sign required)	2 marks	Correct formula* AND correct calculation of CA-inventory	1 mark	Correct formula OR correct calculation of CA-inventory	0 marks	No creditable content
	Mark		Rationale									
	3 marks		Correct answer with or without working (no % sign required)									
	2 marks		Correct formula* AND correct calculation of CA-inventory									
	1 mark		Correct formula OR correct calculation of CA-inventory									
	0 marks		No creditable content									
<i>*The formula can be implied from the correct use of the figures (i.e. \$500/\$1500)</i>												
Acid test formula:												
$\frac{\text{Current assets} - \text{inventory}}{\text{Current liabilities}} \quad (1)$												
Current assets (excluding inventory) = \$500 (1)												
Current liabilities = \$1500												
$\frac{\$500}{\$1500} = 0.33$												
Allow 33% or 33.33%, or 0.3 a third or 0.33:1 for full marks												

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(ii)	<p>Briefly explain the changes in YP's liquidity position.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th><th>Knowledge and Application</th><th>Marks</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2b (APPAPP)</td><td>Explanation of a change in YP's liquidity position</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>2a (APP)</td><td>Identification of a change in YP's liquidity position</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>1 (K)</td><td>Knowledge of liquidity</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>0</td><td>No creditable content</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Acid test has decreased from 0.5 to 0.33 – this is the context NOT the explanation of the change – OFR applies to whatever the candidate has calculated in Q2bi</i></p> <p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YP may not be able to pay short term debts IF inventory has less value than accounted for In 2014 YP held \$600 000 of inventory but in 2015 it is holding \$1m of inventory – this may affect their ability to pay short term debts if the inventory has less value than accounted for The liquidity position has not changed because the current ratio is still 1:1, so YP has the same ability to meet its short term debts. <p>OFR</p>	Level	Knowledge and Application	Marks	2b (APPAPP)	Explanation of a change in YP's liquidity position	3	2a (APP)	Identification of a change in YP's liquidity position	2	1 (K)	Knowledge of liquidity	1	0	No creditable content	0	3
Level	Knowledge and Application	Marks															
2b (APPAPP)	Explanation of a change in YP's liquidity position	3															
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1 (K)	Knowledge of liquidity	1															
0	No creditable content	0															

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Question		Mark																														
(c)	<p>Analyse two economies of scale from which YP may benefit.</p> <table><tr><th>Level</th><th>Knowledge and Application (4 marks)</th><th>Marks</th><th>Analysis (4 marks)</th><th>Marks</th></tr><tr><td>2b</td><td>Shows understanding of two or more EoS in context</td><td>4</td><td>Good analysis of two or more EoS in context</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>2a</td><td>Shows understanding of one EoS in context</td><td>3</td><td>Good analysis of one Eos in context</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>1b</td><td>Shows knowledge of two or more EoS</td><td>2</td><td>Limited analysis of two or more EoS</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>1a</td><td>Shows knowledge of one EoS</td><td>1</td><td>Limited analysis of one EoS</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td colspan="4">No creditable content</td></tr></table> <p><i>EoS must be linked to reduction in (unit) costs</i></p> <p>Content</p> <p>Purchasing economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">YP obviously hold a lot of stock and it is reasonable to suggest that they benefit from bulk buying components leading to lower unit costs but may lead to holding obsolete stock. <p>Technical economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">YP is large enough to benefit from a capital intensive, flow production line (and CAM) so that they can produce at a lower unit cost compared to a business that cannot justify a flow production lineYP can afford technology to implement mass customisation leading to more variation in products and therefore a wider product range to sell to retailers. <p>Financial economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">No evidence in case, but it can be assumed that YP may gain some financial economies of scale if they require finance for the new production line. More chance of gaining the finance for this and perhaps a lower interest rate therefore lower costs. <p>Marketing economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">No evidence in case, but it can be assumed that YP may gain some marketing economies when expanding internationally. This is an industrial market, so any reference to marketing to consumers is unlikely to be in context.	Level	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis (4 marks)	Marks	2b	Shows understanding of two or more EoS in context	4	Good analysis of two or more EoS in context	4	2a	Shows understanding of one EoS in context	3	Good analysis of one Eos in context	3	1b	Shows knowledge of two or more EoS	2	Limited analysis of two or more EoS	2	1a	Shows knowledge of one EoS	1	Limited analysis of one EoS	1	0	No creditable content				8
Level	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis (4 marks)	Marks																												
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2a	Shows understanding of one EoS in context	3	Good analysis of one Eos in context	3																												
1b	Shows knowledge of two or more EoS	2	Limited analysis of two or more EoS	2																												
1a	Shows knowledge of one EoS	1	Limited analysis of one EoS	1																												
0	No creditable content																															

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	<p>Managerial economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Examples in the case of specialised Operations, Finance and Marketing managers. Increased efficiency/knowledge in these roles may lead to cost savings and better quality of work. <p>External economies</p>																															
(d)	<p>Discuss the advantages and disadvantages to YP of selling phones to the retailer in country A.</p> <table><tr><th>Knowledge and Application (4 marks)</th><th>Marks</th><th>Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)</th><th>Marks</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Overall justified judgement based on a two sided argument in context</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Overall judgement based on a two sided argument in context</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Evaluative statement(s) based on a two sided argument in context</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Shows understanding of the features of an international market in the context of the business</td><td>3–4</td><td>Argument (one sided) based advantages(s) AND/OR disadvantage(s) in context</td><td>3–4</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Shows knowledge an international market</td><td rowspan="2">1–2</td><td>Limited analysis of an advantage AND a disadvantage</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Limited analysis of an advantage OR a disadvantage</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">No creditable content</td></tr></table> <p><i>Examiner’s Note: This question is about the possible features of another (international) market and the consequent advantages/disadvantages for YP. Candidates are NOT expected to know about international marketing strategies.</i></p>	Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)	Marks			Overall justified judgement based on a two sided argument in context	7			Overall judgement based on a two sided argument in context	6			Evaluative statement(s) based on a two sided argument in context	5	Shows understanding of the features of an international market in the context of the business	3–4	Argument (one sided) based advantages(s) AND/OR disadvantage(s) in context	3–4	Shows knowledge an international market	1–2	Limited analysis of an advantage AND a disadvantage	2	Limited analysis of an advantage OR a disadvantage	1	No creditable content				11
Knowledge and Application (4 marks)	Marks	Analysis and Evaluation (7 marks)	Marks																													
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Question		Mark
	<p>Content:</p> <p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New markets could lead to increased sales and increased profits for YP • The international retailer could allow YP to spread the risk of their current operations. The business may be less susceptible to changes in the domestic market and domestic competitors • May lead to increasing economies of scale lowering unit costs • International retailer is willing to make regular purchases – security of revenue. • Opportunity for future growth. <p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YP would have to invest in a new production line which may mean a large capital injection and/or new sources of finance • There may be different legal requirements and standards for phones in international markets – YP may have to change their production methods and their products to be successful in these markets – would the retailer bear some responsibility for this? • Marketing in international markets may be difficult due to social, cultural and communication barriers – YP is in an industrial market so any marketing must be in this context. Although retailer is likely to bear responsibility for this. • YP would be more susceptible to worldwide economic changes. • Faye has no experience of international marketing or dealing with international retailers – will YP have to hire a new international Marketing Manager or face the costs of training Faye. 	