

## **GCSE**

# **Business and Communication Systems**

Unit **A265**: Businesses and their Communication Systems
General Certificate of Secondary Education

Mark Scheme for June 2016

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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These are the annotations, (including abbreviations), including those used in scoris, which are used when marking

Annotation	Meaning
BP	Blank Page – this annotation must be used on all blank pages within an answer booklet (structured or unstructured)
	and on each page of an additional object where there is no candidate response.

Annotation	Meaning	Guidance
LI	Level 1 mark point	Level of response questions – 1 stamp usually indicates bottom of mark range, 2 stamps = top of mark range.
L2	Level 2 mark point	Level of response questions – 1 stamp usually indicates bottom of mark range, 2 stamps = top of mark range.
L3	Level 3 mark point	Level of response questions – 1 stamp usually indicates bottom of mark range, 2 stamps = top of mark range.
BOD	Benefit of Doubt	Where you have just awarded a mark, eg for slightly vague/poorly worded responses.
^	Missing required information necessary to award mark	eg on the agenda where part of required detail is missing, eg "a proposal for a new consultant of the month award". A ^ at the beginning of the phrase will indicate that "discussion of" is missing and so the mark point has not been met in full.
REP	Repeats earlier point where mark was awarded	
Highlight tool	Highlights any area of the mark screen	eg to highlight a phrase in the question the candidate failed to address, eg explain two benefits to <b>customers</b> when the answer discusses employees.
<b>✓</b>	Correct point, eg identifying	Use for each mark point awarded – the number of ticks should equal the number of marks awarded. Do not use on Levels of Response questions.
×	Incorrect point/reason	

Here are the subject specific instructions for this question paper

Awarding marks for explanations:

The explanation must relate to what is being asked.

Do not accept as explanations statements which have not been substantiated, eg 'quicker, cheaper, easier' etc

eg "Explain one benefit of sending information to a remote worker by email" 2 marks

A benefit of sending message by email is that it is quick = 0 marks on its own.

A benefit of sending message by email is that it is quick so if the remote worker needs to be told something today they will be able to receive the message today = 2 marks

A benefit of sending message by email is that if the remote worker needs to be told something today they will be able to receive the message on time (1); this could mean that the worker does not waste time visiting a customer who has cancelled their appointment (1) = 2 marks.

Some questions have a 'Level of Response' mark scheme. Specific details about these are given in the Mark Allocation. What follows is general guidance about marking level of response type questions.

There are two types of levels of response questions on this paper.

Type A carries six marks and Level 1 requires knowledge, Level 2 requires analysis and Level 3 requires evaluation. General guidance follows:

Level	Marks	Awarded for	Guidance	Examples:
1	1-2 Demonstrating relevant subject knowledge		Marks are awarded for stating/listing relevant knowledge that helps to answer the question set. Demonstrating one item of relevant knowledge will gain one mark, demonstrating two or more items of relevant knowledge will gain the maximum two marks.	Example: Assess the usefulness of giving managers laptop computers.  "Using a laptop means they can work when out of the office (L1); 1 mark for one valid point.
			Marks must <b>not</b> be awarded for irrelevant or incorrect knowledge.	
2	3-4	Demonstrating analysis	Marks awarded for analysing relevant knowledge to help answer the question set. This includes: explaining ideas by giving relevant examples; linking ideas to develop a coherent argument (eg, by using because) and, using evidence to support assertions.	EG "Using a laptop means they can work when out of the office (L1); this makes them more productive because more work can get done in a day (L2).  This response will achieve 3/6 because there is no context.  Using a laptop means they can work when out of the
			Marks must <b>not</b> be awarded for analysis that is irrelevant or factually incorrect.	office (L1); for example the manager can check letters for errors when travelling on a train between the Swansea head office and the shop in Bristol. This increases productivity because more work can be done in a day.
			For 3/6 – some analysis but limited/no application to the context. For 4/6 – good analysis in context Analysis may be one-sided eg by analysing benefits but not drawbacks.	However security could be compromised because other passengers can read what you have on your screen.  This response will achieve 4/6 because the analysis is detailed and in context.

Level	Marks	Awarded for	Guidance	Examples:
3	5-6	Demonstrating	Marks are awarded for making judgements	"Overall I think that laptops are a good idea."
		evaluation	and justifying conclusions to help answer	This response will not achieve Level 3 – a valid judgement
			the question set. This includes: making a	has not been justified.
			judgement based on reasoned argument;	
			providing improvements; or alternatives that	"Overall I think that giving laptops to managers is a good
			are justified.	idea because although they are more expensive than a
				desktop computer managers will be able to get enough
			It is the justification that triggers the award	extra work done that the laptops will more than pay for
			of Level 3, not the judgement itself.	themselves (L3)." This response will achieve 6/6 – the improvement has been well justified.
			Marks must <b>not</b> be awarded for judgements	mprovement nae zeen wen jaeumear
			that are unjustified, are irrelevant or are	
			based on incorrect/irrelevant reasoning.	
			Valid judgements can only be awarded if	
			the candidate demonstrates that they have	
			understanding of two-sides of an issue – eg	
			benefits and drawbacks.	

Specific guidance is given in the mark scheme for questions 4d and 6d.

Type B is used where quality of analysis is the differentiator for Levels 2 and 3. Specific guidance is given in the mark scheme for questions 2d and 5e

Here is the mark scheme for this question paper.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
1 a	As a valued costumer we want you to be one of the first people to be informed of an exiting new development. From next month you will be able to design your own t-shirst directly on your smartphone or tablett. We have developed a new app which you can donwload from you're App Store. Email us if you would like further details.	5	1 mark for each correctly circled error.  If a candidate has marked more than five errors, mark the first five unambiguous circles, stop marking after their fifth circle.  Do <b>not</b> award a mark for "t-shirst" as this error is circled in the question.
1 b	Drawbacks include:  impact on professional image  increase in customer queries/complaints  need to send out a correction message  loss of customer confidence e.g. may think T-Shirts will be of equally poor-quality  Example response: Time4Tee Limited will need to write to customers correcting the message (1) and this will take time and cost the business money (1).  Example response: Errors in documents may result in a poor reputation (1) which may cause customers to buy from elsewhere (1).	2	One mark for a valid drawback and one mark for explanation.  Accept first answer only

Questio	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
1 c	<ul> <li>Benefits include:</li> <li>quicker than letter</li> <li>instantly transmitted</li> <li>cheaper than letter/free to send (nb – we can assume that the cost of the IT required is a sunk cost)</li> <li>can include multimedia content as part of the message (accept examples eg images, hyperlinks etc)</li> <li>cheap form of publicity</li> <li>improved customer relations/opportunity for customer feedback</li> <li>message will be received quicker than sending by post</li> <li>can send same message to multiple customers</li> <li>DNA "easy to edit message"</li> <li>DNA "easy" "quick" "cheap" "free" etc unless qualified</li> </ul>	2	1 mark for each of two valid benefits.  Do <b>not</b> credit benefits which only discuss the impact on the customer (eg 'customer will take more notice of the message').  Question is about sending emails not receiving them.

Q	uestion		Ansv	ver/Indicative con	tent		Mark	Guidance
1	d						4	1 mark for each correct response to a maximum of
			Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3	Activity 4		four marks.  Do not award if tick is
		Device	Store the photograph	Move the photograph from one place to another within a document	Add a description of the photograph into the document	View the document to check for errors		ambiguously positioned or there are two or more ticked boxes in a column.
		Keyboard			✓			
		Memory card	✓					
		Monitor				<b>√</b>		
		Mouse		<b>✓</b>				
1	е	<ul> <li>can use laptor</li> <li>large storage</li> <li>Drawbacks includ</li> <li>cannot use on</li> <li>security risk of</li> </ul>	capacity e: another (network) f losing the file if la	when away from no			2	1 mark for a valid benefit and 1 mark for a valid drawback.

Q	uestic	n	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
2	а	i	Problems of unlimited liability: <ul> <li>no legal distinction between the assets of the business and the assets of the owner</li> <li>the owner is liable for all debts of the business</li> <li>a sole trader is at risk of bankruptcy</li> </ul> Example response: <ul> <li>The owner is responsible for the debts of the business (1) so if the business owes a lot of manage (1) the owner sould be forced to call their begans to pay the debts (1)</li> </ul>	3	Up to three marks for quality of explanation. Award 1 mark mark for a list of points.
2	а	ii	money (1) the owner could be forced to sell their house to pay the debts (1).  Benefits include:  can be his own boss  can make own decisions  he alone decides what to do with the profits  does not share control with other owners  easy to set up eg fewer legal requirements than a Limited Company or Partnership	2	1 mark for each of two valid benefits
2	b		<ul> <li>Drawbacks include:         <ul> <li>loss of control</li> </ul> </li> <li>legal requirements of incorporation e.g. more paperwork</li> <li>costs of establishing new business</li> <li>legal responsibilities of Directors</li> <li>profits have to be shared amongst the shareholders, therefore Peter doesn't get to keep it all</li> </ul> <li>Allow any two valid examples covering the above - one mark for each.         <ul> <li>Example response: As a company Director Peter would be legally responsible for the conduct of the business (1) and his name and address would be published by Companies House (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Drawbacks must relate either to Peter in his role as company director/shareholder or to the conversion from unincorporated to incorporated business.</li> <li>Do not accept answers based on the premise that an Ltd is a larger business (eg DNA "will have to employ more people")</li> <li>DNA "Less profit" unless qualified – eg 'as it is shared with others'</li>	2	1 mark for each of two valid drawbacks

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Question	Answer/Indicative content		Guidance	
2 C	Reasons include:  uncompetitive (eg prices too high)  lack of revenue  lack of customers  lack of cash/cash flow problems  unable to pay debts  not enough profit/making a loss  Award any valid factor which could result in business failure including examples for the above (eg 'the business lost customers' or 'a big customer does not pay its bills' or 'the bank foreclosed on a loan')	2	1 mark for each of two valid reasons	

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Mark	Guid	lance		
			Content	Levels of response		
2 d	<ul> <li>Benefits to Time4Tee Limited:</li> <li>more customers</li> <li>opportunity to have some retail outlets</li> <li>shares the risk with franchised outlets</li> <li>franchisees pay fees/royalties to Time4Tee Limited</li> <li>franchisees have local knowledge</li> <li>a lower cost method of expanding the business</li> <li>Drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited:</li> <li>some control over the product/customer relations is given over to the franchisee</li> <li>will need to monitor performance of franchisees</li> <li>strategy may conflict with its move into online sales</li> <li>Benefits and drawbacks must relate to Time4Tee Limited in its role as franchisee.</li> <li>Do not credit responses which confuse franchisor and franchisee.</li> <li>Example Level 1 response: Time4Tee will get money from selling the right to be a franchisee (L1) but the franchisee may not offer a good service to customers (L1).</li> <li>Example L2 response: Time 4 Tee will earn money (L1) from the fees and royalties it gets from the products that the franchisees sell (L2).</li> </ul>	6	Level 3: detailed analysis with clear reference to Time4Tee Limited  Level 2: some limited analysis with limited reference to Time4Tee Limited  Level 1: Relevant features of a franchise or impact are identified.	Level 3 (5-6 marks): Analysis of at least one benefit and at least one drawback. If context is good for one but weak for the other then award 5/6.  Level 2 (3-4 marks): Analysis of at least one benefit or drawback. For 3/6 there may be no use of the context.  Level 1 (1-2 marks): Relevant knowledge is applied. There may be no use of the context.  O marks – no response worthy of credit.  Answers must relate to the impact on the organisation and not, for example, its suppliers or employees.  Annotation required: L1 and L2, L3 to indicate where mark bands have been achieved.		

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Mark	G	uidance
			Content	Levels of response
	Example Level 3 response: Time 4 Tee will earn money (L1) from selling T-Shirts and designs to the franchisee (L2). However it will lose control of its business (L1) because the franchisee may offer a poor level of service, for example by not printing designs correctly, and this may lose them customers (L2 and hence L3 because detailed analysis of drawbacks in context)			

C	Questic	n	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
3	а	i	By using:     special characters/symbols     upper case letters     lower case letters     words     random number sequence     longer string of characters	2	Award up to 2 marks for a valid description. This could be one method expanded or two methods identified.
3	а	ii	<ul> <li>Information includes:</li> <li>T-shirts required eg size, type, design, quantity (1 mark for each item)</li> <li>Payment details eg credit card number, expiry date, name on card, CSV number (1 mark for each item) DNA PIN</li> <li>(Billing) address</li> <li>(Delivery) address</li> <li>Contact information eg email, telephone (1 mark for each item)</li> <li>N.B. "delivery address and billing address' = 2 marks.</li> <li>If instead of giving 'delivery address' and/or 'billing address' (1 mark each), the candidate lists components of an address (e.g. 'town' 'county' 'postcode') then award 1 mark max.</li> <li>DNA Date of birth/Age</li> <li>DNA Name as this is precluded by the question.</li> </ul>	3	1 mark for each of three valid items of information
3	b		Data Protection (Act).  Correct name only.	1	1 mark for correct answer

Q	uestic	on	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
3	С	i	Consequences include:     legal action/taken to court     sued by copyright owner/pay compensation     payment of fine     payment of legal fees     prevented from using the copyrighted design  Example response Time4Tee Limited may get sued (1) by the copyright holder (1) and have to pay compensation (1).  DNA incorrect legal consequences eg imprisonment, business/website closed down.	3	1 mark for a valid consequence and up to two marks for explanation
3	С	ii	The study of (1) the (moral) principles (1) which underpin the behaviour (1) of an individual or society (1) such as the difference between right and wrong (1).  Acting in a socially responsible way (1).  Award one mark for a valid example of an ethical action e.g. no explicit images on a T-Shirt or no cruelty to animals.  DNA benefits or drawbacks of behaving in a socially responsible/ethical way eg it is a way to increase brand image and hence sales revenue.  Example: "What the public thinks is morally right (1). Actions that are not necessarily illegal (1) but could harm the business' reputation (1)."	3	Up two three marks for the quality of explanation.
3	С	iii	Drawbacks include:  • negative publicity e.g. social media comments/reviews; pressure group action  • possible legal consequences  • impact on customer loyalty Award one mark for a relevant example eg showing violence.  Example response: "If a design promotes violence (1) then this may result in bad publicity (1) and so customers may choose not to buy their t-shirts from them (1)"  DNA imprisonment, business/website closed down etc.	3	One mark for a valid consequence and up to two marks for explanation.  Award one mark for a relevant example of an unethical-shirt design.

Q	uestion	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
4	а	Differences include:  • tablets are smaller  • tablets are more portable/lighter  • handheld  • tablets integrate input and output devices eg keyboard, monitor  • tablets use battery power  • less memory/storage  • have touchscreen  Allow answers that give the differences of a desktop eg 'desktops must be plugged in'  DNA benefits/drawbacks e.g. easily stolen.  DNA "tablets are cheaper" or "tablets are more expensive" as this is not necessarily true as top of the range tablets are more expensive that basic desktops and vice versa.	4	One mark for each of four valid differences.
4	b	Drawbacks include:  • potential loss/theft/damage/breakage of devices  • potential loss of files/information  • public/competitors/customers can view work on device screens  • financial cost of purchasing devices  • if not connected to the office network then network management/monitoring systems unable to work e.g. backups, browsing history  Maximum of one mark for drawbacks relating to the device itself eg loss/damage/theft of device.  E.g. The laptop could get stolen (1) resulting in the loss of important information (1).  E.g. The laptop could get stolen (1) or damaged (no mark).	2	One mark for each of two valid drawbacks.

Question		Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
4	С	<ul> <li>Possible benefits include:</li> <li>Increased output</li> <li>More chance that tasks are completed on time</li> <li>Tasks can be done quicker eg started one working day and finished by the start of the next</li> <li>Less disruption caused by travel delays</li> <li>Example response: Workers can still get their work done (1) even if their train breaksdown (1) so there is less chance of deadlines being missed (1).</li> <li>Be careful not to award marks for comments that repeat/restate the question stem.</li> </ul>	3	One mark for a valid benefit and two marks for explanation.

Questio	n Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance			
			Content	Levels of response		
4 d	<ul> <li>Benefits to Time4Tee Limited: <ul> <li>staff may be more motivated</li> <li>Time4Tee does not pay to provide the devices</li> <li>staff may be able to work away from the office</li> </ul> </li> <li>Drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited: <ul> <li>need to ensure compatibility of head office systems with devices</li> <li>potential security risk of allowing head office data onto personal devices</li> <li>harder for the business to monitor the work of employees (as devices may not have monitoring software installed)</li> <li>productivity losses resulting from staff using devices for personal purposes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Benefit/drawback must relate to Time4Tee Limited.</li> <li>Example Level 1 response: Time4Tee won't have to buy as many computers (L1) but data could go missing (L1).</li> <li>Example L2 response: Time4Tee won't have to buy as many computers (L1) so this will save it money as it has lower purchase and maintenance costs (L2).</li> </ul>	6	Level 3: evaluates benefits and drawbacks  Level 2: analyses benefits and/or drawbacks  Level 1: relevant knowledge of possible benefits and drawbacks	Level 3 (5-6 marks): Valid judgements made about the benefits and drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited that are based on two-sided analysis making good use of the context with good written communication.  Level 2 (3-4 marks): Analysis of at least one benefit/drawback with adequate written communication. At the top of Level 2 there must be good use of context to analyse. If no context award 3/6. Allow a one-sided response.  Level 1 (1-2 marks): Relevant knowledge is applied with limited written communication. Little or no reference to the context.  O marks – no response worthy of credit.  Answers must relate to the benefits/drawbacks to the organisation and not, for example, its suppliers or employees.  Annotation required: L1 and L2, L3 to indicate where mark bands have been achieved.		

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance		
			Content	Levels of response	
	Example Level 3 response: Time4Tee won't have to buy as many computers (L1) so this will save it money as it has lower purchase and maintenance costs (L2). However this will increase the risk of data loss as employees take data away from the workplace on their devices. If this information gets into the hands of competitors then this could cause a major problem so for this reason I would not recommend they do it unless they can find a way of deleting data eg by remotely wiping their data from employee data. (L3)				

Q	Question		Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
5	а		<ul> <li>CD</li> <li>DVD</li> <li>Blu Ray</li> </ul> Accept first two responses only e.g.: <ul> <li>"1. USB stick (0)</li> <li>2. DVD/CD (1 for DVD then stop as only the first two of the three devices can be marked)</li> </ul>	2	One mark for each of two valid optical storage devices.
5	b		Description Storage device  Main storage device found inside a desktop or laptop computer  Portable flash drive used to transfer data between computers  USB memory stick	2	One mark for each correct response
5	С	i	Drawbacks include:  • transfer speed/quality of service depends on internet connection  • potential for data loss <u>during transfer</u> • reliance on third party to store data securely  • potential issues over who has access to the data if the storage company closes down  • cost of using the service  DNA "can be easily hacked" as data is likely to be encrypted during transfer and the service provider is likely to have secure systems.  DNA "the cloud can do what it wants with your data" etc	2	One mark for each of two valid drawbacks

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Q	Question		Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
5	С	<ul> <li>more secure; eg. Data stored offsite, less risk from fire etc.</li> <li>larger storage capacity</li> <li>cloud storage provider responsible for secondary back-ups of the stored data</li> <li>cost savings eg no need to purchase back-up media</li> <li>Benefits must relate to using cloud-based provider, not benefits of backing up data. DNA "can be easily transported"</li> <li>DNA benefits that do not relate to the storage of data e.g. can access from multiple devices</li> </ul>		1	One mark for a correct response
5	di		Anti-virus	1	One mark for a correct response
5	dii		Firewall	1	One mark for a correct response

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance			
			Content	Levels of response		
<b>5</b> e	<ul> <li>less chance of security issues on the network</li> <li>less chance of unauthorised use of the network</li> <li>network will become less cluttered eg from user-installed programs</li> <li>Drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited:</li> <li>staff not being able to change passwords is a security risk</li> <li>potential problems if the network manager is absent</li> <li>Benefits and drawbacks must relate to Time4Tee Limited.</li> <li>Do not credit responses which confuse franchisor and franchisee.</li> <li>Example Level 1 response: If the network manager is away then nobody can install a program (L1). But there is less chance of malicious programs being installed (L1).</li> <li>Example L2 response: If the network manager is away then nobody can install a program (L1) including software updates such as to anti-virus software and this might put the security of the network at risk (L2).</li> </ul>	6	Level 3: detailed analysis with clear reference to the context (i.e. the Policy).  Level 2: some limited analysis with limited reference to the context (i.e. the Policy).  Level 1: Relevant benefits or drawbacks are identified.	Level 3 (5-6 marks): Analysis of at least one benefit and at least one drawback with good written communication. If the use of the context (i.e. the Policy) is good for one but weak for the other then award 5/6.  Level 2 (3-4 marks): Analysis of at least one benefit or drawback with adequate written communication. For 3/6 there may be no use of the context (i.e. the Policy).  Level 1 (1-2 marks): Relevant knowledge is applied with limited written communication. There may be no use of the context (i.e. the Policy).  O marks – no response worthy of credit.  Answers must relate to the impact on the organisation and not, for example, its suppliers or employees.  Annotation required: L1 and L2, L3 to indicate where mark bands have been achieved.		

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance		
			Content	Levels of response	
	Example Level 3 response: If the network manager is away then nobody can install a program (L1) including software updates such as to anti-virus software and this might put the security of the network at risk (L2). This would be a major problem for Time4Tee as it does so much of its business online that it cannot afford to be unprotected. However it would be good if fewer people could install programs (L1) as there is less chance that competitors could arrange for spyware to be installed on the network (L3 analysis of both benefits and drawbacks).				

C	Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
6	а	<ul> <li>the website/web-server interrogates         <ul> <li>a text file stored on a user's computer</li> <li>containing information on a website visitor's browsing history</li> </ul> </li> <li>to select relevant content from website's database</li> <li>based on what you have previously viewed on the website</li> <li>Example response:         <ul> <li>A cookie is a text file (1) containing information on a website visitor's browsing history (1) stored on the user's computer.</li> </ul> </li> <li>A cookie is a text file stored on your computer (1) and used to display relevant content from website's database (1) based on your previous visit(s) (1).</li> </ul>	3	Up to three marks for quality of explanation.
6	b	<ul> <li>It is a legal requirement</li> <li>(Of the)EU/EU regulation/Cookie Law/Data Protection Act</li> <li>Time4Tee must inform/warn visitors</li> <li>Personal data is being stored</li> <li>Some visitors do not want their personal data stored</li> <li>Visitors must have the choice to opt out</li> </ul>	3	Answers must state or imply that there is a requirement for this information to be provided.  One mark for a requirement (not necessarily a legal requirement – see indicative content). Up to two marks for reason/explanation.
6	С	<ul> <li>Features included:</li> <li>Encryption (WPA/WPA2/ 802.1X authentication)</li> <li>Security key/password to connect</li> <li>SSID broadcasting turned off (hidden network)</li> <li>Example response: You must enter a password (1) if the password is <u>correct</u> access to the network is granted (1). The network should be encrypted (1) so that data across the network can only be viewed by users with the correct key (1) otherwise data is an unreadable code (1). SSID should be turned off (1) so that although people might know there is a network they can't connect to it unless they know its name (1) and enter it correctly when trying to connect (1)</li> </ul>	3	One mark for a valid feature and up to two further marks for the quality of explanation.

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance			
			Content	Levels of response		
6 d	Cutting prices by 30% for the next three months:  Benefits to Time4Tee Limited:  • high impact  • likely to be cheaper than competitors  • should attract new customers  Drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited:  • temporary reduction – prices will then rise  • existing customers also benefit so lose revenue from them  • customers perceive this as a drastic measure/signal of reduced quality?  Loyalty scheme  Benefits to Time4Tee Limited:  • less of a discount  • encourages repeat purchases  Drawbacks to Time4Tee Limited:  • discount may not be enough to gain many new customers  • permanent reduction in prices to loyal customers  • cost of administering loyalty scheme  Benefits and drawbacks must relate to Time4Tee Limited.	6	Level 3: evaluates impact with clear reference to the context (i.e. the two options).  Level 2: analyses impact with reference to the context (i.e. the two options).  Level 1: relevant knowledge of possible impact	Level 3 (5-6 marks): A reasoned recommendation based on appropriate analysis of both sales promotion methods in relation to increasing sales income with good written communication. If context (i.e. the two options) is good for one but weak for the other then award 5/6.  Level 2 (3-4 marks): Analysis of benefits or drawbacks of using price reduction or loyalty scheme as means to increase sales income with adequate written communication. For 3/6 there is limited development only.  Level 1 (1-2 marks): Relevant knowledge of one or both sales promotion methods with limited written communication. There may be no use of the context.  O marks – no response or no response worthy of credit.  Answers must relate to the impact on the organisation and not, for example, its suppliers or employees.  Annotation required: L1 and L2, L3 to indicate where mark bands have been achieved.		

Question	Answer/Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance		
			Content	Levels of response	
	Example Level 1 response: If they cut prices 30% they will gain lots of new customers (L1) but existing customers will spend less (L1).				
	Example Level 2 and Level 3 response: Cutting prices by 30% should gain lots of new customers (L1) who will spend more but existing customers will spend less unless they buy lots more t-shirts and this may not happen if competitors drop their prices (L2); this is quite likely because selling t-shirts online is a competitive market so I would urge them to be less ambitious and introduce a loyalty scheme because this will encourage repeat purchases which over time will increase their income more than the cost of running the scheme (L3).				

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